

Public Libraries

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The Library as a Paying Investment*

Carl B. Roden, assistant librarian, Chicago public library.

The historian who, in some future generation, shall take for his task the characterization of the age in which we live ought to have no difficulty in discovering its impelling motive and its most significant contribution to the material progress of the race. For the former he will need only to point to the tremendous conquests over time and space which are making us gasp in astonishment, if not in terror. The ocean greyhound, the eighteen-hour train, the wireless telegraph which leaps the last gap, and spoils the last chance for the "tired business man" to escape from the causes of his weariness, the motor car, the airship—speed, high, reckless, killing speed, he will find to be the chief contribution of this generation to the sum of human achievement.

And for the spirit of the age, its impelling motive, will he not again be obliged to name—speed? Speed, which conditions our every activity, our habits of thought, our business and our pleasures. Speed, which clamors for results, straining for the end without the irksome intervention of the means. Everywhere the passion for immediate results, everywhere the quest for quick returns, for the highest proceeds with the lowest expense, be it of money, time or effort—everywhere the eternal question, the supreme question of our time: *Does it pay?*

And yet, side by side with this spirit

of gain our historian will find that there flourished in this age two movements seemingly as incongruous and as little akin to the materialism of the times as anything well could be. And he will be at a loss to account for the great zeal and enthusiasm shown in the furtherance of those movements—which are the twin movements for the abolishment of poverty and of ignorance—until he is forced to the conclusion that the age must have been convinced that these movements—paid!

And so the public library, which is one of the largest phases of the modern movement for the abolishment of ignorance and, on the whole, one of the most significant products of our time, comes forward with more and more confidence every time it is called to the bar to answer whether it is a paying investment, and is conscious of the feeling each time that its inquisitors are a little more predisposed to give it the benefit of the doubt and to put the burden of proof on the other side.

Along somewhat similar lines there have been occasional inquiries—challenges—directed at higher education, to which the colleges have replied, sometimes by joining issue directly, and submitting such exhibits in evidence as the average incomes of college graduates, and sometimes, and much more effectively, by a sort of plea of confession and avoidance, showing the value of a college training to society at large, and the power and position in an intellectual and cultural sense, of the college graduate.

Now the library has the same right, or it has no right at all, to point to its contribution to the maintenance and advancement of the educational average of

*Summary of an address delivered at the meeting of the Wisconsin library association, Janesville, February 21, 1912.

the community, as the other side of the balance sheet. And in saying that, we do not at all have to deny or undervalue the use and importance of the library in the common business relations of life. There is no well conducted library in the country that cannot point to scores of instances illustrating its effective aid to the business man, the manufacturer, or to their employees. The books which the wide-awake librarian takes care to assemble, dealing with trades, industries, processes and manufactures, with especial attention to those of his own city, very soon pay for themselves over and over again. Statistics and geographical information enable the merchant to deal more effectively with his foreign clients. Books on the methods and products of other lands teach the manufacturer—if he be not too smugly self-satisfied to learn—how to improve his own. The books of design and ornament, of architecture and decoration—what librarian does not know how eagerly they are seized upon by the members of those professions who wisely keep in touch with the public library? The public library of Grand Rapids, Mich., maintains a department of furniture design, the books for which are examined and recommended or rejected by a committee of operatives from the factories. In Pittsburgh the technology department of the public library is the consulting laboratory for the iron and steel industries centering there, and the librarian in charge is a graduate engineer. In Chicago the great house of Marshall Field and Company conducts a class among its employees for the study of the goods it sells and calls upon the public library constantly for books upon all phases of the subject, from the raw materials up to the beautiful finished product as it is manufactured in all parts of the world. And last fall, in getting ready for that famous event known as the Fall Opening, the chief window decorator conceived a wonderful scheme of show windows, extending along a whole city block, with a background derived from the art of four different nations: Egypt, Greece, Rome, and Mexico.

Everything, walls, floors, furniture, vases, implements, hangings, had to harmonize, and the result was one of the most marvellous artistic exhibitions one could desire to see. And our art department librarian was able to stroll along those windows and name the every volume and page of works in our collections from which that tiling, this chair, this border and yonder vase were derived.

But I like to think, rather, of that province of the library which has to do with supplementing, extending or developing the knowledge and proficiency of those numberless young people who are forced into gainful pursuits before their time; the rising generation to whom suggestion, encouragement, direction, inspiration mean so much. I would have a room or an alcove or a corner in every library in which systematic study of the various arts and trades and professions could be carried on; where the young builder's apprentice might follow his daily occupation even to the topmost rung of architecture; where the clerk might be shown the way out of his treadmill by a glimpse of the kingdoms of the law, of medicine, of engineering, of art, yes, of literature and of librarianship, if you please. Opening up to him those channels of worthy and soul satisfying endeavor into one of which his mentality may fit and flow and be moulded like molten metal in the sand. You people who have "missed your calling," you who had to go to work, no matter at what, and feel that your powers have never been applied to a task worthy of them; who feel that you might have been so much more valuable to the world and useful to yourselves, if you had only had the chance,—do you think that the public library, in offering such facilities, is a "paying investment?" In this age of fabulous achievement, what greater gift can the young journeyman carry in his scrip than the jewel Opportunity? And who realizes this better than the modern librarian?

But the public library, yielding its profits to the business of today, thrusting its opportunities into the faces of the

young people on the threshold, does not stop there. It reaches still farther into life, and seeks and lays hold upon the child, the citizen of to-morrow, the builder of to-morrow's world, the thinker of to-morrow's thoughts, which shall go on, to-morrow and to-morrow and to-morrow, leading the race upward and onward toward that consummation that lies off there somewhere, and which men call destiny.

Have we no duty toward that child beyond teaching him how, in his day, he may earn his bread? Is there no charge upon this generation to see to it that the next shall begin a little higher up, with a little less of the burden of the world to arrest its progress, a little fewer of the mistakes and failures of the past to carry along? Consider the city child, with the asphalt pavement and rectangular streets for his playground. Consider the child of the city slums, who finds adventure in the gutter; to whom a tree means the stunted sapling on yonder boulevard, and grass a square of green bordered with barb-wire. God help the builders of great cities, which cover the earth and obscure it from its children—because of economic necessity! God help the little child whose life is bounded by the four walls of a flat, the four thin, paper walls, on the other side of which another child is tapping, tapping, both together wearing out the wings of the spirit beating against the prison bars. The spirit? What chance has the spirit in conflict with economic necessity?

And so the library beckons to the child and takes his plastic mind and seeks to mold it, and bids the spirit of great books to call unto his spirit. By the aid of stories and pictures and all the gentle arts known to the children's librarian it instills the knowledge and intimate friendship of books, it teaches the power and consolation of books, it generates the habit of regarding books as a part of life, and when it has done that; when the library has given to the child the Habit of Reading, it has given him that which shall remain with him to the end, shaping his thoughts, enriching his life, tem-

pering his relations with his fellow men, lightening the load of the world's burden, and bringing his generation and all that follow him nearer and nearer to the Ideal. Does it pay?

But there is one other phase of the public library's mission which is above even these. It is not always recognized, because we stand too near; it is not planned for in our library economy, because it is too vast to be confined within any grooves of human direction. I mean the library as a world force. I have referred to the two movements for the abolishment of poverty and ignorance which are gathering such a splendid momentum in our day. I believe that they make up the appointed task of this generation, the pre-determined contribution which is required of it in the furtherance of that eternal, unfaltering irresistible process by which humanity is being impelled forward, forward, forward toward some goal, some

“— far off, divine, event

Toward which the whole Creation moves.”

It is not launching a new philosophy to say that there is a consummation awaiting humanity at the end of its journey; a day which shall dawn upon man in the perfection of all his powers; a day when he shall be able to stand upright and look his Creator in the face and say, “I am as thou hast made me.” When life shall be no longer half lived while the other half withers and dies on our hands; when the dreary catalog of failures and miseries, of hopes blasted and ambitions drowned in futility, lives mispent or squandered in fruitless toil, shall give place to life as man was intended to live it, with the world at his feet, not across his back, with Nature and all her forces obeying his commands, with nothing left undone or half done, nothing hidden from his clarified sight; nothing too subtle or too sublime for his perfected comprehension.

Call it Evolution, call it Creation—or Creative Evolution, as its most recent discoverer has it—call it Destiny, call it God!—there is a force in the world.

driving it on and on toward the End, the Consummation, and to this force each age makes its contribution—unconsciously, involuntarily, perhaps, but surely and inevitably.

And to the contribution of this age is, on the one hand the marvelous subjugation of time and space, on the other, the great impetus given to the world-wide effort to raise and improve the social and intellectual condition of humanity. And the most significant phase of this latter movement; the discovery and chosen instrument of our day is the public library, with its universal appeal, its unlimited sphere of influence and its boundless opportunities; with its enlightened methods and the enthusiasm of its inspired leaders.

And because we believe this to be true and nothing short of this to be our mission, we librarians hold our heads up in our day and generation, with pride and confidence in our calling—daring even to claim for it the dignity of the profession. And when you ask us for dividends upon your investment, we point, not to the counting-room or the ledger, but to the influence of the library which has been invested in the minds of men and of their children, and which will pay, and pay and pay again, even unto the end of the world!

Library Reports and Bulletins

A "List of library reports and bulletins in the collection of the University of Illinois library school" makes a pamphlet of 22 pages, compiled by Florence R. Curtis, an instructor in the school. Naturally American libraries predominate, but three and a half pages are given over to entries from British libraries, a half page to entries from German libraries, and there are entries from libraries of every continent. The period covered by reports listed is indicated with exactness, and much other bibliographical information is supplied.

Libraries are asked to send their publications to the school, so that this part of the important and necessary book-equipment of the school will be made better even than this list shows it to be.

Departmental Libraries

Arthur Cunningham, librarian, Indiana state normal school, Terre Haute, Ind.

The Departmental library system is a term that has been applied to the arrangement of public libraries and to a peculiar division of labor in their care and management, such as was advocated by the late Dr William F. Poole and realized to a certain extent at least in the construction of the building and the organization of the staff of the Newberry library.

It is a term that is also used in colleges and universities to designate the small libraries that have sprung up about departments of instruction. The latter is the sense in which I wish to employ the term to-day. My purpose is to discuss briefly the origin, nature, and purpose of these libraries and the problems that have arisen in their management.

Though entering distinctly into the preconceived plan of the organization of library facilities in one of our more recent institutions of learning, viz. Chicago university, these special libraries for the most part sprang into existence when the systematic use of libraries in educational work was appreciated by comparatively few individuals. These men drew their inspiration from the seminaries of the German universities, in which they had been trained. It is an interesting fact, as pointed out by Herbert B. Adams, that "the seminary, like the college and the university, is of ecclesiastical origin. Historically speaking, the seminary was a nursery of theology and a training school for seminary priests. The modern theological seminary has evolved from the mediaeval institution, and modern seminary students, whether at school or at the university, are only modifications of the earlier types. The Church herself early began the process of differentiating the ecclesiastical seminary for the purposes of secular education. Preachers became teachers, and the propaganda of religion prepared the way for the propaganda of science. The seminary method of modern universities

is merely the development of the old scholastic method of advancing philosophical inquiry by the defense of original theses. The seminary is still a training-school for doctors of philosophy; but it has evolved from a nursery of dogma into a laboratory of scientific truth." It was Leopold von Ranke who first transformed the seminarium into a laboratory of science by the introduction of practical exercises in historical investigation which developed a new school of historians. "Through the influence of these scholars," says Dr Adams, "the historical seminary has been extended throughout all the universities of Germany and even to institutions beyond German borders."

It is easy to trace this Germanic influence to American shores and show how great is our debt of obligation. Suffice it to say, however, that the topical, comparative, and research methods of instruction have been introduced and carried to such a point of perfection in the American university, college, and even high school that Germany herself may well take notice.

Seminary instruction was based upon the comparative study of authorities. These books, for the sake of convenience, were stored in a small room, generally adjacent to the class-room, to which the professor in charge and his students only had access. Starting with the examination of a few standard works the logical and inevitable tendency of the method is to pursue the statements of authors to fundamental sources of knowledge. Books were therefore necessarily added to these collections and many libraries, whose treasures had long remained hidden, were delved into to satisfy the insatiable thirst for truth. Thus not only did these special libraries grow, but the general libraries of the colleges and universities, which had received little or no use from the time John Harvard made his first gift, were now thrown open and became active agents in the work of education. To the seminary method of study more than to any other single influence the library of the college and university

certainly owes its position to-day as an essential means of education. Public and even private libraries have all felt the quickening spirit of the new method in its process of broadening and deepening the channels of culture.

While the seminary library was small and used by a few, its administration was no great problem. At any rate, with a reasonable amount of care, the professor could keep control of his books, but as they grew in number and were used for topical references by all the students in a department, the problem of keeping track of the material became a serious one.

Much time was often wasted in the search for books upon the shelves, since they were rarely catalogued, or kept in a very orderly arrangement. Moreover, books were abstracted by individuals or their use monopolized by a few. At the most critical moment they could not be found and in some instances books were known to disappear in wholesale quantities.

It is observed that there is an utter lack of uniformity in the development of such special libraries in the same institution. Some enterprising heads of departments will secure all the books needed in their work, while their more timid colleagues fail to get their bare necessities supplied. Sharp lines of demarcation cannot be drawn in the reference work of related departments and needless duplication of expensive material is often the result. The difficulties of classification, together with the lack of general catalogues, often sent students and teachers back and forth upon the campus in the effort to locate a particular book.

The increased value of these libraries demands greater protection against loss by fire than is afforded by the average college building in which such libraries are usually located. It is also found that valuable books—sometimes books that cannot be replaced at any price, suffer for want of repair or rebinding at the proper time.

Since the books in these libraries are as a rule purchased in small lots, shipped

by mail or express instead of freight and ordered frequently without regard to market values, there is a great waste of funds.

Finally it is noticeable that an institution which gives attention to the building up of departmental libraries rarely gives proper support to its general library. Weak administration and dissipation of library forces are the results.

Various remedies have been suggested and in some cases applied to the chaotic conditions that have arisen in some institutions. The only true remedies are centralization of administration and the unification of library facilities.

Though the recommendations for books should come largely from the various departments of instruction that make use of them, they should be passed upon and purchased by a representative committee of the faculty, of which the librarian is the natural chairman and executive officer. It should be determined by the committee whether any book recommended by a department has sufficient general interest to warrant its retention in the general library or is so exclusively technical as to be of interest only to the department. In any event, every book assigned to a department should have its location clearly indicated in the general card catalogue.

Rules for the management of the departmental libraries should be formulated by the college librarian. Economy and efficiency of administration suggest a combination of two or more departmental libraries, when practicable, together with the appointment of an assistant from the general library to superintend the use and distribution of books.

It is still better, as I think, and many libraries are so constructed, that the special libraries are all brought under one roof with the general collection. By such a system practically all the problems of administration are either greatly simplified or altogether eliminated and greater efficiency is the result.

College libraries of ordinary size, say fifty to a hundred thousand volumes, should be provided on the upper floor of

the building with eight or ten small rooms, which could be assigned to two or more related departments. It would be our purpose to place in each of these rooms only the most used technical books that pertain to the work of the small advanced classes, though other books might be drawn freely from the stack for use during a certain period. For the sake of such convenient transfer of books, I would have these rooms closely connected with the general storage stack. The selection of the books and admission to these rooms should be left largely, if not entirely, to the will of the professors who make use of them. In general, the professors, to whom a room is assigned should be made to feel the same freedom in its use, as if it were attached to their class rooms.

Besides these small seminar rooms, there should be one or more larger rooms in the library building, to which any professor might take a larger class when the occasion demands the demonstration of the use of a considerable amount of material during a given class hour. Probably this kind of instruction, so far as it pertains to the use of general reference books and bibliographies would be better left to a special department of library instruction, which would meet regularly in this or in another similar room.

If all these special rooms are arranged on the same floor of the library building and if the use is not too great, it is possible for a single attendant to keep the books in usable shape, assist the students and teachers when necessary, and issue the books at the evening hour.

It is needless to say that these rooms, as well as all rooms in the library building, should be constructed with due regard to light, air and comfort of the readers and to the safety of the books,—points, which were not well considered in the improvised seminar rooms of the olden days.

Under such a system one is no longer compelled to puzzle his wits as to the probable location of a book that he wishes to consult, nor to walk long dis-

tances only to find that he has missed his guess. On the other hand, he may enter the library with a reasonable degree of assurance of quickly finding any book that belongs to the institution. Time and patience are thus saved for better things.

The Charging System of the University of Missouri Library

The charging system in use in the library of the University of Missouri was put into force last September and is consequently in the experimental stage. The present system is the result of an effort to secure accuracy in our records and to facilitate the issuing of books to readers. The system is a combination of the Newark charging system and the system which was in force in this library.

In the first place, we had pockets put into all the books in the general library. These pockets were made by pasting on the inside back cover plain manila slips of paper, size $3\frac{3}{4}$ by $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The paper is number one rope manila. These slips cost us \$37.00 for 100,000. The work of pasting the pockets was done during the summer months by our handy man who works under the title of "janitor." We then secured book slips or cards for the pockets like the illustration ruled on both sides. The book slip is Bristol card 2 by 5 inches in size and cost \$100 for 100,000.

At the top of the card we put the

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R677

Roosevelt, Theodore.
Applied ethics.

Loaned | _____
| _____

author and short title and the call number, all of which is taken from the shelf list. One book slip was made out for each shelf list card first, then the books corresponding to the cards were found and the cards inserted in the pockets. The call numbers were also written on the covers directly above the pockets. When the end paper was colored or otherwise unsuited to take the ink a small strip of white paper was pasted over, on which the call number was written. This work was done by student assistants during the summer at an approximate expense of \$400 for 75,000v.

The advantage of having the book slip accurately made out is very great. It relieves the possibility of errors which are sure to be made when a charging clerk is required to make out a charging card on the spot, or when a professor or a desk attendant makes out the card. Authors, editors, translators, get confused, titles of publications and the names of societies issuing them are liable to become interchanged on the card and cause confusion, annoyance, and delay. Then again, after the card is filed in the charging tray it is troublesome to find it when you are looking for it under the name of the author or the name of the Society if the entry should be made incorrectly. Furthermore, there have been found mistakes in call numbers. Such mistakes cause very great annoyance and much loss of time. This new arrangement lessens the errors and becomes as accurate as the shelf list itself.

Under the old system a student was required to fill in a reading room slip, giving author, title, and call number, but under the new arrangement he simply draws the card from the book pocket signs his name and departs with the book if he wishes it for reading room use. If he wishes it for home use he waits until the charging clerk can put her rubber stamp on the book slip and on the book pocket showing when the book is due to be returned. The pockets are stamped "Book due" so that the date only needs to be added.

In the case of reserve books the pocket and book slip are both stamped "Not to be taken from reading room" and in the case of a book placed in the seminar room the legend is "Not to be taken from seminar room." This serves two purposes. It is a notification to the reader that the book must not be taken away, also to the charging clerk who would refuse to charge such a book, and the legends indicate the location of the book to the book clerks. If a seminar book gets into the general reading room, it soon gets back to its proper place in the seminar room.

Then all the book slips for books being used in the reading room are filed alphabetically in a charging tray. As soon as a book is returned to the desk the book slip for that book is taken from the tray and inserted in the book pocket again. The book is then ready to be issued a second time. The book slips for books borrowed by the teaching force on which there is no time limit under one year are filed alphabetically by authors in another tray after the charges have been made on the professor's account card. This card contains a record of all the books borrowed by that professor. This part of the system has not been changed. A professor is allowed to keep a book until Commencement week every year except books of fiction and periodicals. The student, on the other hand, has a time limit of 14 days on each book. This fact complicates the records of the charging clerk. If there were no time limit on books those issued to students and to professors could be filed in one alphabetical arrangement but we file the book slips for books issued to students in the time tray by date to show when the book is due. We do not make an extra card to file in the alphabetical list. We therefore have three trays on the delivery desk, the one containing book slips for books issued in the room, the second containing the charges against professors filed alphabetically, the third containing charges against students arranged by date and subdivided by alpha-

bet. This is a weak part of the system, although it is not a formidable one. One wishing to know the location of a book which is out of the library must search the alphabetical list and, if he does not find it, he must then search the 30 apartments of the time tray. This however, can be done in from two to five minutes.

The method of notices for fines, messenger service for reserved books which are not returned promptly, and the printed forms for the convenience of readers and the charging clerk do not differ materially from those used in other libraries. They are therefore, not described here. A full account of the book slips and pockets will be found in Dana: Modern American library economy, part 1, section 2, The charging system.

HENRY O. SEVERANCE.

Children's Books—What Constitutes a Good Edition?*

I

If at a recent dressmaker's convention the question had been asked "What constitutes a good dress?" there would probably have been as many different answers given as there were dressmakers present, for each would have had in mind different conditions under which the "good dress" in question would be used—in fact, the answers would vary infinitely according to "the time, the place and the girl." So in our question of what constitutes a good edition, the answer must be determined largely by each individual library, after a careful consideration of the purpose the book is chosen to fulfill and the amount of money available. The new popular fiction comes usually in but one edition and that as alluring in every way as possible, so it behooves us to order our standard books in the most attractive form. Buy a book which you wish to have read by all the children in an attractively bound, and illustrated edition and it will be read constantly even after a small dun colored copy of the same book with small type and cheap illus-

*Extracts from two papers read at the Wisconsin library association meeting at Janesville, February 21, 1912.

trations has remained for years on the shelf with never a reader. The new edition of "Last of the Mohicans," by its attractive appearance, has induced so many of our boys to read it that even the old despised copies have been eagerly sought and all of Cooper's books have been read as never before. Many editions of the standard books are published and it is often wise to buy several, both to let the children see that there are many editions and to teach them to discriminate between them. They need to be trained to appreciate good workmanship in every line and an occasional expensive edition may be worth the additional cost because of the love of the genuinely beautiful it helps to stimulate.

The points to be considered in judging of the value of an edition may be put into four classes—first, subject matter; second, mechanical preparation of the material; third, illustration, and fourth, binding.

The discussion of subject matter is to be brought out later under other topics but we might ask ourselves these questions when making a choice—"Has the adaptation of a classic been well made? Has the translator retained the spirit of the original? Has a wise selection been made in the case of a collection of stories such as Andersen, Grimm or Aesop? Have the stories most often called for been included? Does it contain any which are objectionable or weak?"

The paper upon which the book is printed is an important item; if too heavy or brittle, it may break; if too thin, it may tear or be unmanageable; if too heavily weighted like the New Amsterdam edition of "Hans Brinker" the pages may stick together when only slightly moistened. If the pages are left rough and uncut it unfits the book for as general use among children, while gold-edged pages are a luxury only suitable for the choicest literary treasures.

Out of consideration for the eyesight of the children, the print should be from clean type, the font one large enough to be easily read at a reasonable dis-

tance. A liberal margin is always appreciated if it be not ridiculously exaggerated until the print appear like an island floating in a sea of space. And at no time is it more appreciated than when the book needs to be rebound and returns with a good margin remaining.

Those dealing with children of foreign parentage appreciate the value of good paragraphing for they see constantly the discouragement of the child who is only commencing to read English when he takes up a book and opens it at an unbroken page of solid print. He cannot know how much of interest is hidden underneath that uninviting exterior and turns instinctively to one with open paragraphing and many illustrations.

The question of illustration is one which must be settled in each particular library according to its own needs and resources. The purpose a book is chosen to fulfill will determine the amount and kind of illustration to be chosen, for in all cases the pictures should be appropriate, refined and true to the text. In a book which is for constant use for supplementary reading the illustrations appropriate to a table copy of the "Arabian nights" would be misplaced. We none of us question the power for good of a "Joan of Arc" illustrated by Boutet de Monvel, a "Wonderbook" by Crane or a picture book by Caldecott. We need to counteract the poster style of illustration so common, the cheap gaudy prints of the Sunday newspaper, the glaringly inartistic but striking pictures that surround the child on every side. Of course we cannot give him those which would appeal to adults, he must have those which he can understand and love, those which have color and life enough to hold his interest until the deeper beauty may gradually penetrate his being and lead him instinctively to distrust the cheaper, gaudy prints. Where little money can be spent it seems wise to select an inexpensive but well bound and printed copy for general use with an extra copy for table or clean-hands use with choice

illustrations and beautiful binding.

But now we are facing an improved condition as so many books are being offered us in publisher's covers but bound according to A. L. A. specifications, and so many others may be ordered re-enforced by paying but a trifle in addition to the net price.

The small library with a limited income should not put much money into expensive editions, no matter how attractive, when the same expenditure would provide several much needed copies of the book in a practical form. A book may be almost hopelessly utilitarian in appearance but still be the best edition for general use because of its wearing qualities and clean type.

MARY A. FORBES.
La Crosse, Wis.

II

A few weeks ago a copy of the *Vicar of Wakefield* sold for \$1.450. It was a *first* copy of a *first* edition, bearing the inscription "From the author" in Goldsmith's handwriting. Although any one of us would be glad to possess so famous a book, yet, from the point of view of the small library, this volume has few, perhaps none, of the requirements of a good edition.

A good edition, so far as our purpose is concerned, is one which combines attractiveness with durability. And the ratio which these qualities should bear to each other is determined largely by the amount of money to be expended for such books during the year. Should one have sufficient money at his command to fairly well supply the demand, then durability might sometimes be sacrificed in favor of artistic or beautiful make-up; but if, on the other hand, the demand be always greater than the supply, the attractiveness, which means greater cost, should be surrendered. Small, cheaper books have the advantage of being more suitable for the small hand, and if dropped, are not usually complete wrecks, as may be the case with the large, heavy books. As an example of this take the *Lang fairy tales* in two different editions. The \$2.00

book is large, heavy, beautifully illustrated and contains a large number of fairy stories. Another edition is small, illustrated in black and white, contains a few stories and costs 20 cents. This edition is from Longman, Green & Co. For the same money a library may supply ten children with fairy tales which it might have expended upon a single copy to be used by one child at a time.

We are told that fine editions attract. Some librarians suggest that a few such be owned to be used as reward for certain merits. Indeed more than one edition of the standard works should be had if possible, but I find that it is the *matter* a book contains which a child really seeks. One boy doesn't recommend a book to another as "a peach" because it is illustrated by Howard Pyle, Jessie Wilcox Smith or the Rhead Brothers. A fine lad returned a new book the other day and we chanced to be looking it over together. I ineptly remarked that it was not a very good edition. His reply was prompt and consoling: "Well, it's got good stuff in it." So I think it is the librarian who really appreciates the fine edition. A *good* edition will suffice the child.

With such library aids as the A. L. A. booklist, Miss Kennedy's list, our own township library list and that gotten out by Miss Marvin in Oregon, besides lists prepared by many of the larger libraries, one cannot go far astray.

As to trade lists, those of Ginn, Heath, Rand, and the American Book company are useful in locating these less expensive books. These have many standard titles in plain, not unattractive dress at small cost.

In conclusion let me say
What constitutes a good edition,
When constantly in hard commission,
Is one to wear

With poorest care
And still remain in fair condition.

EDNA L. DERTHICK,
Elkhorn, Wis.

New A. L. A. members will enjoy the Ottawa conference and Saguenay trip.

Periodicals for the Children's Room

Judging from the numerous inquiries from parents, teachers, librarians and grown-ups generally, it would seem that there is a crying need for more magazines for children. In considering the matter carefully a few questions have been uppermost in my mind.

Is there any demand for this kind of reading matter from the children themselves? Are not we older people, because of our fondness for this kind of literature, needlessly exercising ourselves in our eagerness to supply children with the same sort? Will not the children come to scrappy literature early enough in their careers without encouragement from their elders? Are not children better pleased with good books? Of the story magazines do not *St. Nicholas* and the *Youth's companion* meet the child's needs, and for practical interests does not *Popular mechanics* do it?

"But," one says, "there are other magazines for children that are perfectly harmless." Haven't we as parents and librarians been too free in putting "perfectly harmless" things into the children's hands? If our ideals rise no higher than harmlessness, mightn't we almost as well close our library doors, or at least reduce the tax levy?

Of *St. Nicholas* and the *Youth's companion* I shall say but little, as you are all perfectly familiar with them. Of the others, the *American boy*, the *Boy's magazine* and the *World's chronicle*, resembles the *Youth's companion* in their general makeup. Some space is devoted to current events, travel sketches, humane papers, photography, mechanics, engineering, wood-working, athletics, scouting, camping, magic; stamp, coin and curio collecting; puzzles, riddles, jokes. But first and foremost are the stories, and there's the rub. Those in the *Boy's magazine*, which is edited by Walter Camp, are almost wholly of a sporting and athletic nature. The stories in the *American boy* are more general in their character, but are inferior to those in the

Youth's companion. The composition and style of the stories in both these magazines are not the most elegant, and occasionally a story verges very closely to the sensational. In the *World's chronicle* some of the stories are re-writings of old ones, for example Munroe's Campmates. For news the *World's chronicle* is fuller than any of the others, and this news is admirably written to interest children. The section devoted to birds and trees makes an appeal to the Nature lover. With boys, *Popular mechanics* is as popular as the story magazines, and contains far more of practical value than any of the others. This magazine is devoted to mechanical and engineering news, construction work, inventions, discoveries, shop-notes, amateur mechanics, interesting patents, jokes, etc.—things the active, inquiring American lad dotes on in these days of industrial interests. No library can afford to be without this periodical for circulation, and most libraries can well afford more than one copy.

For very little people, *Bird lore* and *Little folks* are perhaps most often met with on the library tables, but both are decidedly flabby. They are "harmless," yes, and yet not so harmless. They have absolutely no literary value. The stories are inane, the verses silly. The pages for little people in the *Youth's companion*, *St. Nicholas*, and the *Ladies' home journal* are far better. Not long since I found *Judge* in the children's room in a very small library, having an appropriation of only a few hundred dollars a year. "The boys like it," the librarian explained. If the book selection in that library is to be judged by the standard "they like it," what better influence does the library exert than that of the cheaper sort of moving picture shows? Of children's magazines there are a few others, inferior even to the ones mentioned. You see the number is small, and of this small number a few could be spared without interfering very greatly with the child's happiness, or retarding in any way his intellectual development.

MAUD VAN BUREN.

Shall There Be a Story Hour in the Small Library?*

I

When a library invites the Story Hour to join its procession of hours it issues an invitation which cannot lightly be recalled and secures a guest that may not be slighted even after it has grown to be quite one of the family. Wherefore it behooves libraries, small libraries in particular, to consider carefully whether or not they can afford the new comer and the additional expense involved.

In the first place, the preparation of the story calls for considerable time; taking the children to and from the story hour room used, and the actual telling add up the minutes to an astonishing degree. Have you the time to give? In the second place, more children than usual—a desideratum—come to the library and must be cared for lest they grow noisy or lest the first-comers seize all the obvious "good" books leaving the shelves barren and often bare for the late arrivals. Such supervision will require an extra assistant, temporary, at least, unless the story teller be a volunteer. Is there an assistant to be spared? Lastly, the supply of books should be considered, since the increased demand soon plays havoc with a small collection. A limited book fund, or an unlimited fund with an unenlightened dispenser of it, does not allow much money to be spent for juvenile requirements, hence the eager young borrower is apt to meet with disappointment or disillusionment, a state of affairs equally bad for borrower and library.

On the other hand, what does the story hour accomplish? It does not merely bring children to the library, a place they otherwise shun or ignore, but it reveals to them a new world of enchantment, adventure and achievement. It is, I am convinced, the joy-giving or cultural power of the story hour that gives to it its greatest value and its right

to live. Bearing this in mind, it is necessary to make thoughtful choice from the hosts of tales that zealous collectors continue to thrust upon us. The classic stories, Theseus, Jason, Chimaera; the hero tales, Siegfried, Roland and their kindred; and the familiar folk tales we and our fathers and mothers grew up with—these are good to tell and to repeat. They are full of charm, interest and imagination which appeal to the child and exert an unconscious influence over him. These are the stories the child from nine to twelve likes best, and it is he whom it is most desirable to reach. Those younger, charming as they are, the small library cannot afford; those older are ready for romance, are tired of the simplicity and directness that formerly pleased them, and are perhaps insulted by the suggestion of a story hour. But with the right children, i. e., the right age, the story is a delight to all concerned.

Now, lest there appear to be a contradiction here, let me hasten to suggest an occasional story hour—once a month, or if that be too often, once in the autumn after the opening of school, once after the Christmas holidays and once in the spring. And be not disappointed at a lack of visible results but believe that eventually story teller, library and children will be better off for the Story Hour that has become one of the family.

MARY S. WILKINSON,
Superior, Wis.

II

After a two years' test in which the best available story tellers were employed, no noticeable results were seen, either in a larger attendance at the library, or in a better selection of books. The children loved to listen to the stories and there the matter ended. Comparatively few children were reached, and as story telling is in the regular curriculum of the grade schools, we decided to omit it, as it seemed the natural work of the teacher and not of the library. The teacher knows better how and when and to what extent story telling should be included in her work, than does the li-

*Notes of discussion on "The story-hour," Wisconsin library association meeting at Janesville, February 21, 1912.

brarian. If she does not know the great value of story telling, then it is the duty of the librarian to help her and to see that the proper material is furnished, so as to enable her to carry forward her work.

This year we sent suggestive lists of the best books for story telling to the teachers and the demand was so great for these books, that we were obliged to buy many duplicate copies of them.

More children are reached by working with the teacher than in the one-hour session on Saturday. Why duplicate on that day what the teacher has been doing during the entire week? It would be far better to spend that one hour with the grade teachers, than with a few children, unless such work were in charge of some person not connected with the regular library staff, as the time spent in preparing for and conducting the story hour adds duties and tasks to an already overworked staff.

Another way to increase the reading of good literature among the children is by the School duplicate collection of best books sent to the schools for circulation.

The library should put its funds and energy upon those things which are most important, or most effective in the long run in educating the community. Local conditions alone can determine these.

Are the benefits derived from story telling carried on in a small library well worth the special efforts required for its efficient preparation?

CORA FRANTZ,
Kenosha, Wis.

Advertising the Children's Room

The play hour, which has been tried for the past two months in the children's room of the Carnegie public library of Boise, Idaho, is not a thing of so settled a nature, as yet, that it can be written about in set terms. The children's room has been open only about three months and various means are employed to arouse an interest in it. An open day was advertised but only those who already had the "library habit" came. Then the story hour was advertised and proved to be very popular with the lit-

tle folks here as elsewhere. The room is open every evening until 7:45 but there was a very small attendance after 6 o'clock. The librarian wanted to increase this attendance especially on Friday night when there are no school lessons to prepare for the next day.

Consequently a picture bulletin was made and placed on a bulletin board in the children's room and it was advertised in the papers that on Friday evening there was to be a play hour supervised by the children's librarian and an assistant. Over 80 children came. The smaller ones played such games as drop-the-handkerchief, stage coach, and New York, while the older ones played games requiring some thinking, such as dumb crambo, the traveller's alphabet, and also looked at views through the stereoscope.

Before the next Friday, some games such as authors, the history game, and the barnyard game were bought for the older children to play so that the younger ones might receive more attention.

The play hour is still an experiment but one that will work out well. The children who come are children who do not come as a rule to read. The playing draws them but when they see the others reading and drawing books they also wish to do so. Thus every Friday, there is an increased demand for application cards.

The children's room is in the basement of the building and adults using the reading room are not disturbed. In fact, many take an interest and say they think it will be good practice for the children as games are not so popular now as they were a few years ago.

If for every twelve children there could be an assistant to direct them, more games could be played that have a tendency to brighten the wits, broaden the vocabulary and stimulate their minds. This would certainly make it worth while not counting arousing their interest in the library and what it has for them.

LAURA S. JOHNSON,
Boise, Idaho.

Books New and Nearly New

Our transatlantic colleagues, the English librarians, have been turning out some very readable books of professional interest. We can heartily recommend to our readers Mr Ernest A. Savage's "Old English libraries," published in Methuen's antiquary series. It takes up in turn the use of books in early Irish monasteries, the English monks and their books, libraries of the great abbeys, book-lovers among the mendicants, the dispersal of monkish libraries; book-making and collecting in the religious houses, cathedral and church libraries, academic libraries (Oxford and Cambridge) and their economy, the use of books towards the end of the manuscript period, the book trade, the character of the mediaeval library and the extent of the circulation of books. There are appendices giving prices of books and materials for book-making, a list of certain classic authors found in mediaeval catalogs, a list of mediaeval collections of books and a list of principal reference works. The treatment is scholarly, but not dry-as-dust. The pages are illumined by numerous illustrative anecdotes. Thus the author tells of the quarrel which was said to have been the cause of the change in the career of St. Columba. The latter borrowed a psalter from Finnian of Moville and secretly copied it by working at night. When Finnian heard of it he, as owner of the original, claimed the copy. Columba refused to give it up. The dispute was referred to Diarmid, King of Meath, for arbitration. He decided in favor of Finnian arguing that as every calf belonged to its cow, so every copy of a book belonged to the owner of the original. Columba thought the award unjust and eased his mind by saying so. (Those interested in early copyright legislation please note.) In some monasteries more than a pledge was demanded of the borrower who wished to transcribe a manuscript; the borrower was required to supply a copy of the transcript when returning the original. "Make haste to copy these quickly,"

wrote St. Bernard's secretary to such a borrower, "and send them to me; and according to my bargain cause a copy to be made for me. And both these which I have sent you and the copies, as I have said, return them to me, and take care that I do not lose a single title." The extra copy was demanded not so much for gain as to put a check upon borrowing, a practice which many abbots did not encourage, and also as a protection of their libraries against loss.

"The romance of bookselling; a history from the earliest times to the twentieth century," by Frank A. Mumby (Chapman & Hall), is a book which can well be read backwards by the young library assistant who is not particularly concerned with the origins of bookselling, than which, says Mr Birrell, "no great trade has an obscurer history." The book deals as much with publishers as with booksellers, for many of the latter have at one time or another branched out into the publishing business. If you doubt whether the book appeals to you try the last chapter first, "Publishers of to-day," and read the history of the university presses of Oxford and Cambridge; the rise and progress from small beginnings of such publishing houses as Longmans; the career of aristocratic John Murray; the history of Smith, Elder & Co., the Blackwoods, A. & C. Black, Macmillan & Co., Chapman & Hall, Blackie, Cassell and William Heinemann.

To his friend MacLehose, who afterwards established the well-known business of MacLehose & Sons, publishers to the University of Glasgow, young Daniel Macmillan, the founder of the house of Macmillan & Co., wrote explaining his lofty ideal of what a bookseller's calling should be; "You surely never thought that you were merely working for bread! Don't you know that you are cultivating good taste among the natives of Glasgow; helping to unfold a love of the beautiful among those who are slaves to the useful, or what they call useful? * * * We booksellers, if we are faithful to our

task, are trying to destroy, and are helping to destroy, all kinds of confusion, and are aiding our great Taskmaster to reduce the world into order and beauty and harmony."

Bohn, who in the service of his original trade of bookbinder, invented spring backs, but is, of course, best remembered for his famous series of standard authors and translations from the classics, was said by Emerson to have done as much for literature as railroads for international intercourse.

The ideal of Smith, Elder & Co., has always been, in the words of the present head of the firm, "to win and to deserve confidence alike at the hands of authors and the public." The relations between Longmans and the authors whose work they published have always been exemplary. As an illustration of their generous dealings we may cite their offer of £3,000 to the poet Moore before a line of the book was written. "There has seldom occurred any transaction in which trade and poetry have shown so satisfactorily in each other's eyes" wrote Moore. John Murray II on one occasion was forced to remind Byron that in writing to his publisher he forgot that he was also addressing a gentleman.

"My dear madam," said Thomas Longman IV to a lady who called to inquire whether his firm would not publish a volume of her poems. "It is no good bringing me poetry; nobody wants poetry now. Bring me a cookery book, and we might come to terms."

All this reminds me of some of the stories told by that indefatigable note taker, Mr G. W. E. Russell in the chapter on publishers in his "Seeing and hearing." According to Sydney Smith's testimony the fiscal system of the Longmans was simplicity itself. "I used to send in a bill in these words: 'Messrs Longman & Co. to the Rev. Sydney Smith, To a very wise and witty article on such a subject; so many sheets, at 45 guineas a sheet' and the money always came." On March 7, 1856, Macaulay wrote in his diary: "Longman came with a very pleasant announce-

ment. He and his partners are overflowing with money, and think that they cannot invest it better than by advancing to me on the usual terms, of course, part of what will be due me in December. We agreed that they shall pay £20,000 into William's Bank next week. What a sum to be gained by one edition of a book. I may say, gained in one day. But that was harvest day. The work had been near seven years in hand."

If we think of publishers as being altogether commercial there is some evidence that authors are not averse to gain. "Sir," said an enthusiastic lady to Mr Zangwill, "I admire the 'Children of the ghetto' so much that I have read it eight times." "Madam," replied Mr Zangwill, "I would rather you had bought eight copies."

In his "Fragrance among old volumes" (London, Kegan Paul), Mr Basil Anderson, the city librarian of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, shows himself a scholar of no mean attainments and a booklover with a genuine appreciation of some of the treasures which have come his way. His pen portrait of Magliabecchi, the librarian to the Grand Duke Cosmo III, is delicately and sympathetically drawn, enlivened with imaginative touches. The chapter on the bookplates of Thomas Bewick is a real contribution to our knowledge of this side of the master engraver's work, enriched with reproductions of seven bookplates from the Bewick collection in the Newcastle-upon-Tyne library. As an illustration of the writer's fluent style we quote his epilogue, a description of the old bookman's retreat, to which we may all hope to go when library pensions are a surety:

"When he is grown old, and bread-winning is become a weariness to him, our bookman, if he have but enough savings, will journey to a sunny place he wots of, where a little town is perched high above the world on the top of a steep hill. There is a citadel in it for safety, a cathedral for beauty, and a library for delight. In some tranquil Rue des Echos, where the world's din and vexations shall be but as memories to

him, or as a half-heard rumor, he will live out the quiet remnant of his days. He will bask in the hot sunshine, will walk at his ease under long avenues of elm trees, sit at the foot of cool grey ramparts overlooking the long levels of the fields beneath, and anon, at home among his books, will pore over the old volumes, gathering up the threads of thought which, in a life filled with diverse occupation, had remained disunited and elusive. Perchance, too, using such art of style as is within his faculty, he will himself add a little to the melody of life by writing upon the things that are a joy to him: his long fidelity to books will have brought him a discernment and a not trivial sense of beauty. In such pursuits will the evening of his life be spent—an evening luminous and calm, not lacking its sunset radiance."

THEODORE W. KOCH.

Instruction in Agricultural Literature

Instruction in the use of scientific and agricultural literature and in the use of general reference books has been given at the Agricultural college of Utah for the past six years. It consists of talks given by the librarian on reference books and sources of information, with test questions to be answered through examination of these works. The questions aim to bring out the special value of the books and when possible have some bearing on the particular line of study which the student is pursuing.

For a text-book and note-book a printed list of reference books in the library of the college has been compiled. It is interleaved with blank sheets for notes. The introductory pages give a simple outline of the Dewey Decimal classification and an explanation of the dictionary card catalog. Some bibliographical work is required.

At the conclusion of the study of the reference books and source material of some classes of books, lectures are given on the more general literature of the subject by the professors. The purpose of the study in question is knowledge of

books, sources of material and information. A comparison of the curriculums of colleges and state universities shows that while courses to teachers in the care and purchase of books and in library science are given, yet the agricultural college seems to be in the lead in introducing into the regular college course this new study of books as tools.

In some of the colleges where the course is offered it is a required subject for the degree of B.S. in agriculture; in others it is an elective. The University of Illinois college of agriculture requires one hour a week throughout the year. Iowa state college gives the course during one semester, four hours a week. Cornell offers a course in the literature of horticulture and landscape gardening which is open to seniors and juniors and is required of graduates: time, two hours for one semester. Oregon agricultural college offers one hour a week for one semester. Minnesota and Wisconsin agricultural colleges both require some work in this line. Utah agricultural college requires of freshmen in the agricultural and general science courses one hour a week throughout the year.

Broad cultural studies are needed to offset the narrowing effect of specialization, particularly in industrial education. Library study fulfils this purpose in its broad systematic survey of all knowledge.

ELIZABETH SMITH,
Agricultural college, Utah.

Library Limericks

There once was a Reference Librarian,
Who really, you know, was a wary 'un.
"All knowledge," she said,
"Not contained in my head
Is contained, I assure you, in nary 'un."

There once was a gay Desk Attendant,
Whose delicacy oft was offended;
For the public would say
In the most shocking way,
"Has your 'Broken heart' not yet been mended?"

L. H. B.

The Merrill Book Numbers

The following tables of decimal numbers, here printed entire for the first time, have been in constant use at the Newberry library for the past 16 years. The first table has been used also at the Library of Congress, the John Crerar library, and elsewhere for alphabetizing names and headings; it was printed by Mr. James Duff Brown in his *Subject classification* (1906).

The three tables are designed respectively for names, periodical titles and dates. The numbers are to be treated as decimals and may be expanded by merely affixing additional figures without decimal point. They differ from the Cutter Alfabetic-order table numbers in employing only a numerical symbol without the initial letter of the name. To compare the example given in Table I: Bancroft is 07 in my table and B 22 in Mr Cutter's; Chicago is 16 in mine and C 43 in his; History is 40 (or 4) in mine and H 62 in his; Brockton is (by expansion) 123 in mine and B 78 in his. Names intervening between two numbers are assigned the first number; when both numbers have been used, the first is expanded by merely affixing figures. For the sake of brevity it is well to leave gaps (e. g., to use 12, 122, 124) thus allowing for later insertions without the use of four figures. In crowded sections the numbers may be selected somewhat freely; in the case of long class-numbers the first figure only may be used.

Table II, for alphabetizing titles of periodicals, is based upon the British Museum catalog of periodical publications and thus "fits the literature" better than the name table.

Table III furnishes a series of date abbreviations covering periods both before and after Christ in one sequence of numbers. For most purposes the decades before Christ are sufficiently minute subdivisions; if exact dates are desired, however, directions are given for constructing them.

The alternative figures at the right of the table employ one more figure than the other symbols; the symbols for dates

after 1,000 are nothing but the dates themselves treated as decimal numbers, so that no symbol is necessary for exact dates.

The Cutter and Merrill numbers may be conveniently combined, if desired. For example, biographies of the same man written by different authors may be distinguished by affixing the Merrill number to the Cutter number, thus: Tarbell's life of Lincoln may be numbered L 6385—L 63 being the Cutter number for Lincoln and 85 the Merrill number for Tarbell. Again in literature, dates of works may be affixed to Cutter author number, e. g., M 6489 for Milton's *Poetical works*, 1890.

Copies of the following tables mounted upon cardboard for desk use may shortly be obtained from the author, care of the Newberry library, Chicago, Ill.

WILLIAM STETSON MERRILL.

Merrill numbers

TABLE I.

PERSONS—PLACES—THINGS.

The decimal numbers given in Table I are designed for alphabetizing names of persons, places, titles or things, e. g.:

Bancroft07
Chicago16
History40
Coffee18

Additional numbers may be formed by merely affixing figures, e. g.:

Brimfield12
Brockton123
Brookline127

Shorter numbers may be obtained by dropping the second figure, e. g.:

History4
London5
01 A	18 Clo
02 Agr	19 Cond
03 Als	
04 Ap	20 Crom
05 Ash	21 D
06 B	22 Day
07 Ban	23 Dick
08 Bax	24 Doy
09 Beno	25 E
	26 Elg
10 Bix	27 Erm
11 Bou	28 F
12 Brim	29 Fel
13 Bum	
14 C	30 Fit
15 Carr	31 Forr
16 Chan	32 G
17 Ci	33 Gay

34	Gill	67	Pek	50	Lav	80	Revue
35	Goe	68	Pfi	51	Libu	81	Rey
36	Got	69	Pif	52	Literary	82	Roy
37	Greene			53	London	83	Salm
38	H	70	Po	54	Magazine	84	Schm
39	Hat	71	Pow	55	Magb	85	Sem
		72	Q	56	Math	86	Sol
40	Hesi	73	R	57	Memo	87	Stad
41	Hiu	74	Ray	58	Mid	88	Su
42	Hov	75	Robi	59	Mitt	89	T
43	I	76	Row				
44	Ini	77	S	60	Monthly	90	The
45	J	78	Sanc	61	Monti	91	Tim
46	K	79	Scha	62	Musi	92	Tro
47	L			63	N	93	V
48	Lang	80	Schw	64	Neu	94	W
49	Law	81	Sevi	65	Nev	95	Wel
		82	Simon	66	New	96	Wo
50	Leo	83	Soo	67	North	97	Zeitg
51	Lit	84	Steb	68	Nuo	98	Zeitschrift
52	Long	85	Strat	69	Og	99	Zeitst
53	M	86	T				
54	McL	87	Thau	70	Osw		
55	Marc	88	To	71	Pari		
56	Mau	89	Trum	72	Peo	a-c	.8
57	Merr			73	Phr	de	.801
58	Min	90	U	74	Poln	de s	.802
59	Moo	91	Ull	75	Pres	du a	.803
		92	Upt	76	Ps	du c	.804
60	Mu	93	V	77	R	du e	.805
61	N	94	Ven	78	Ret	du g	.806
62	Nev	95	W			du j	.807
63	Nol	96	Wats	79	Repu	du m	.808
64	O	97	Wha			du r	.809
65	P	98	Wit				
66	Park	99	X-Z				

TABLE II.

PERIODICAL TITLES.

01	Aa	25	Cra
02	Albu	26	Danz
03	Alman	27	Deutsche
04	Amerid	28	Dra
05	Annales	29	Ech
06	Annual		
07	Annuar	30	Elo
08	Archiv	31	Esp
09	Archives	32	Exh
		33	Fish
		34	Freed
10	Ast	35	Gaz
11	B	36	Geni
12	Bell	37	Gla
13	Bibliot	38	Gri
14	Blat	39	Hap
15	Bow		
16	British	40	Historic
17	Bulletin	41	I
18	Camd	42	Int
19	Cent	43	J
		44	Jahre
20	Chili	45	Journal
21	Christl	46	Journal di
22	Civ	47	Journal p
23	Comm	48	K
24	Corn	49	Kos

FRENCH PERIODICALS

REVUE

71	Pari	a-c	.8
72	Peo	de	.801
73	Phr	de s	.802
74	Poln	du a	.803
75	Pres	du c	.804
76	Ps	du e	.805
77	R	du g	.806
78	Ret	du j	.807
		du m	.808
		du r	.809

TABLE III.

TIME DECIMALS.

(Explanation.)

The following two-figure date numbers cover years before and after Christ in one series. The two figures given at the left of the dates stand for decades since 1500 A. D., and for centuries before 1500.

The precise year after 1500 may be designated by dropping the *first* figure of the date, e. g.: 522=1522 A. D.; 688=1688 A. D.; 911=1911 A. D.

The precise year between 1 and 1500 A. D. may be designated by affixing the last *two* figures of the date to the number for the century, e. g.: 4492=1492 A. D.; 4066=1066 A. D.; 3325=325 A. D.

Numbers for exact dates B. C. may be formed by taking the number for the century and affixing the following substitutes for the last two figures of the date: 9 for 1, 8 for 2, 7 for 3, 6 for 4, 5 for 5, 4 for 6, 3 for 7, 2 for 8, 1 for 9, e. g.:

1787=323 B. C. i. e. 17=4th century; 8=2; 7=3. 2066= 44 B. C. i. e. 20=1st century; 6=4; 6=4.

The alternative numbers given at the right are longer but avoid the transition from figures to letters with the advent of the year 2000 A. D. For exact years after 1500 use whole date; e. g. 1522, 1775.

TABLE III.

TIME DECIMALS.

NOTE—For convenience of expanding the numbers the last year of each century or decade appears under the section following: e. g. 1800 appears under 19th century.

0 PREHISTORIC		Alternative	
1	ANTIQUITY		0
11	Before 900 B.C.		
12	899—800 B.C.	9th c.	00
13	799—700 B.C.	8th c.	01
14	699—600 B.C.	7th c.	02
15	599—500 B.C.	6th c.	03
16	499—400 B.C.	5th c.	04
17	399—300 B.C.	4th c.	05
18	299—200 B.C.	3d c.	06
19	199—100 B.C.	2d c.	07
20	99—1 B.C.	1st c.	08
3	CHRISTIAN ERA		09
30	0—99 A.D.	1st c.	090
31	100—199 A.D.	2d c.	091
32	200—299 A.D.	3d c.	092
33	300—399 A.D.	4th c.	093
34	400—499 A.D.	5th c.	094
35	500—599 A.D.	6th c.	095
36	600—699 A.D.	7th c.	096
37	700—799 A.D.	8th c.	097
38	800—899 A.D.	9th c.	098
39	900—999 A.D.	10th c.	099
4	MIDDLE AGES		1
40	1000—1099 A.D.	11th c.	10
41	1100—1199 A.D.	12th c.	11
42	1200—1299 A.D.	13th c.	12
43	1300—1399 A.D.	14th c.	13
44	1400—1499 A.D.	15th c.	14
5	SIXTEENTH CENTURY		15
50	1500—1509		150
51	1510—1519		151
52	1520—1529		152
53	1530—1539		153
54	1540—1549		154
55	1550—1559		155
56	1560—1569		156
57	1570—1579		157
58	1580—1589		158
59	1590—1599		159
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Information Wanted—Local History in Photographic Record

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I am now engaged, along with two other officials of the Photographic survey and record of Surrey, in preparing a book dealing with the general subject of photographic survey work.

The value of the photographic print in recording the architecture, antiquities, popular life, customs, and natural history of a town or district is only now beginning to be generally recognized. In England there are already a number of town and county societies carrying on work of this kind. In a number of cases these societies have recognized that the local public library is the best place in which to house their collections. In the case of the Survey and record of Surrey, we have stored in the Croydon public libraries, a collection which has now reached a total of about 5,000 prints and 1,000 lantern slides, which illustrate every department of county history, scenery and so forth.

We are anxious in our forthcoming

book, which we hope may widely extend the movement for photographic record, to state what has actually been done in this direction in other parts of the world.

I shall be extremely grateful if any of the readers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES can send me any information as to what is being done in America, either by means of societies, or in a more private way, to make and store photographs of this kind.

The points upon which information is particularly desired are the following: Date of founding of society; Secretary's name and address; Number of prints in collection; Number of lantern slides; Main subjects represented; How stored, albums, boxes, drawers, vertical file; Where stored, public library, museum, or other place; Is collection accessible to public? if so, under what conditions? How is collection arranged? if classified, any notes showing nature, detail, and extent of classification would be highly valued; Is there any catalog or index? If so of what kind; Method of mounting? dry or wet; size of mounts, and material, whether paper or card.

Copies of rules, reports, labels, and any other printed matter, would be extremely useful.

I need hardly say that due acknowledgment will be made of all information given and material sent.

Faithfully yours,

L. STANLEY JAST,
Chief librarian, Croydon public
libraries; Honorary curator,
Photographic survey and record
of Surrey.

Catholic Literature.

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I have been watching the bibliographical and news columns of our library periodicals for some time, thinking that some public library worker would note the publication, "One hundred best Catholic books," issued last April. I have as yet seen no notice of it and, as it seems a list with valuable suggestions for public librarians, some of whom—unintentionally, no doubt—overlook such

a point of view, I venture to write to you of it.

The pamphlet, of fifteen pages, contains a list drawn up as a result of a series of articles in the Catholic times of Liverpool, England. It contains fifty novels, ten historical works, ten biographies, ten devotional works and fourteen works classified as miscellaneous. Among the latter are More's Utopia, Francis Thompson's Shelley, Newman's Apologia and the Catholic encyclopedia. The list is not annotated, but is followed by several pages of comment and criticism. It may be obtained only, I believe, from the publishers, the America Press, 59 East 83rd street, New York City, price, five cents.

In mentioning this pamphlet of their interesting series, I am reminded of another which should prove of interest to reference librarians, at least. Amid nearly universal praise of the new Britannica, the protest of Roman Catholics against its unfairness to them has received rather scant notice. The pamphlet issued by the same firm, and at a similar price, last August, entitled, "The truth about the Encyclopedia Britannica," sets forth the Roman Catholic point of view on the articles devoted to that church in this valuable and monumental work of reference.

I do not venture to express any agreement or disagreement with their views or statements, but those who have not seen their arguments may be glad to know of their appearance—thus possessed of more or less authority.

EDWARD H. VIRGIN,

Librarian, the General theological seminary (Protestant Episcopal), New York City.

Where Is It?

To the Editor:

Can any reader of PUBLIC LIBRARIES locate in print "The beggars' and vagrants' litany?"

Very truly yours,

JOHN B. KAISER.

Department librarian, Economics and sociology, University of Illinois.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

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Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

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Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

The dauntless optimism of the Chicagoan, although in the midst of one of the most stinging blizzards in the Weather series of 1912, when the calendar is pointing to April, is nevertheless counted upon by the reporter of a local newspaper to respond to his assurance, that Spring is not dead nor even delayed, "She arrived promptly," he avers, "March 20 at 39 minutes past five in the afternoon,—preceded by a few hours of snow!" And recent word from the South that, "In Florida it is like June!" further confirms our faith that the "Ethereal mildness" is not to be dropped permanently from the Weather clerk's program.

Nor amidst such remote hints are the real signs of the vernal approach altogether wanting. A waft of blossoms—not of the hothouse, a motion in the air—not of the blizzard, comes with the sound of wedding bells,—denoting that something fresh and pleasant is afoot. While the first of these intimations is from the South, the North has its promises also. Albeit our prophetic sense unaided would scarcely have been competent to divine the precise event which,

with unfeigned pleasure, we shall place first on the list.

With the announcement of the approaching marriage of Miss Mary Hannah Johnson to Dr Philander Priestly Claxton there rise before us, recollections of the graceful figure and winsome personality of a young southern woman, then a debutante in library work, who came among us a few years ago, as the newly appointed librarian of the Howard (since re-christened Carnegie) library of Nashville, Tennessee. Eager to learn, enthusiastic, energetic and large souled, under her leadership the library has prospered. From a small collection of books with a limited circulation the library has become, in less than a decade, a highly organized institution in the front rank of progressive libraries and an active center of library extension in the South. Its librarian has been a leader too, in other forward educational movements and in the women's clubs of her state.

Upon seeing notices in the press dispatches of her approaching marriage, Mr Andrew Carnegie addressed a cordial personal letter to Miss Johnson in which he expressed deep appreciation of her work and conveyed the best wishes of himself and Mrs Carnegie. The letter was accompanied by a cheque for \$1,000 as a bridal gift.

In accepting Miss Johnson's resignation the Library board of Nashville passed complimentary resolutions in appreciation of her as woman and librarian.

Regret that we are losing from our ranks a librarian of distinction is offset by the reflection that we gain through her the permanent interest of a powerful ally and warm friend to the cause of the free public library. Dr Claxton has already given substantial proofs not only of his cordial attitude in this respect but of his disposition and initiative in the matter of countrywide library extension. A man of vigorous type and in the prime of his years, a ripe scholar and an educationist of thorough preparation and broad experience, his administration, since his appointment by President Taft, less than a year ago to be Commissioner

of the United States bureau of education, has already been marked by aggressive work of far-reaching scope.

Up to the time of his appointment he was professor of education of the University of Tennessee. He is a native of that state, and was graduated from the university at the age of 19. He received his A. B. in 1882 and the A. M. degree in 1887. Later he was graduated from the Johns Hopkins university, and studied education in Germany and Sweden, visiting the schools of other European countries before returning to this country to take a position of leadership in the movement for public education in the South.

His work at first was in North Carolina. During one of his educational campaigns he held 40 meetings in 36 mountain counties of Tennessee and North Carolina. He was a member of the faculty of the North Carolina State Normal and Industrial college, and an editor of educational publications, also head of the summer school of the South at Knoxville and a member of the Southern educational board.

The tide of good wishes which the bride-elect draws after her from friends in the library world meets the groom-to-be with welcome and congratulations.

While thus nationally re-inforced on the school side from within our borders, library work is further to be enriched by the entrance into the profession of one who has already won distinction among Canadian educators. Not the least of the pleasurable experiences which we American librarians may foregather at the coming A. L. A. meeting at Ottawa will be the opportunity to become acquainted with the newly appointed librarian of the Carnegie library of the hostess city, who is Mr William John Sykes, until recently professor and senior English master of the Collegiate institute, Ottawa.

Mr Sykes is a Canadian by birth and education. He was graduated from the University of Toronto where he also won

the gold medal for honors in English, French, German and Italian. Within the past few years he has spent some time abroad studying the secondary and technical schools of England. He is a charter member of the Hamilton and Ottawa Canadian clubs and a man of broad interests and live sympathies, a strong debater, a writer for the press and the author of text books widely used in Canada.

That he promises to be a worthy successor to his friend, Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee, who has done so much for the Ottawa library, and will continue its work on the lines of serious educational effort, may be gathered from the following notice taken from a local paper:

"In the constituency of the young business and professional men of Ottawa, and among the fathers and mothers of those pupils who have been fortunate enough to study under him, his name is revered and honored. His duties as librarian will be made less arduous by the co-operation of all who know him in Ottawa. And friends of the Ottawa Collegiate institute are glad that, if the school had to lose Mr Sykes, the whole city has gained him."

Among the important recent changes in library positions is that which has taken place in San Francisco. Mr William R. Watson, who resigned his position of librarian of the public library December 1, 1911, severs his connection with that institution April 1, 1912. To the date of going to press no successor had been appointed. Mr Watson is looking forward to a long holiday in the open. With physical vigor renewed, his varied administrative experience in the management of large libraries will doubtless urge him again into the active field.

Mr Watson was assistant librarian of the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, from 1897-1903, going thence to California, where for several years he was in the State library previous to assuming charge, about four years ago, of the public library of San Francisco.

A Merited Promotion

The resignation of Mr William F. Yust from the position of librarian of the Louisville public library takes effect on April 1 and on April 20 he will enter upon his new work as librarian of the public library of Rochester, New York, a splendid field offering an unusual opportunity for library development and one peculiarly tempting to a man of broad vision and constructive ability.

The trustees of the Rochester public library have adopted a comprehensive scheme for a central library and branches. Their initial step in calling an executive chosen from some half dozen names representing men of high educational qualifications, as well as thorough professional training and library experience, shows an appreciation and a grasp of the problem before them which argues well for the future of their project.

Mr Yust is not unfamiliar with the conditions, and the social and intellectual atmosphere of his new field of work, having been for the three years previous to his appointment to the Louisville library the assistant state inspector of libraries in New York. Besides this he is a graduate of the New York State library school, taking his degree of B. L. S. in 1901. This was preceded by three years' work as an assistant in the library of the University of Chicago, just after completing post-graduate work in that university in French, German, Latin and Greek. He was graduated in 1893, with the degree of B. A. from Central Wesleyan College. In 1905 he took charge of the work in Louisville, beginning with the collection of about 50,000 volumes of the Polytechnic reference and subscription library as a basis. The transformations which have followed in rapid succession in the seven years succeeding his appointment have scarcely been paralleled in the same length of time elsewhere in the country, taking into consideration means and conditions. The book collections of 144,000v. (increasing at an annual rate of 14,000v.) had a circulation last year of 652,000v. besides answering 26,000 reference questions. The

main building, valued at \$315,000, and six branches have been built and contracts for the seventh are let. There are also 12 deposit stations in operation and 230 class room libraries. A separate branch for the service of the colored population, work for the blind, lectures, exhibits, work for children, and constant co-operation in library extension in the South, and a training class for library assistants are features of the general work of the library. Exclusive of janitors and pages of whom there are 18, the library staff now numbers 43 members. A fine staff of workers has been developed.

The principle of efficiency that broad education and special training are necessary for the responsible positions in the library, though prevailing in general as a policy, in which the librarian has been upheld by the majority of the Louisville library board, has, nevertheless, drawn a steady and noisy fusillade of objection from the traditional sources. In the main, these objectors belong to two types, first, those upon whom the modern conception of a live, working library has not dawned and second, those who, though better informed, are indifferent to such a conception and hold consistently to what Emile Faguet describes as, "The cult of incompetence," the spirit of which is, that anybody can do anything and therefore, "My friend" can do it the best of all.

The call of Mr Yust to an equally, if not more important post, and that at a personal and financial advantage to himself, must eliminate all possibility of the charge of an issue on personal grounds, and holds the real issue at stake exactly where a man of Mr Yust's temper and that of the progressive element would have it held, namely, to the principles of efficiency and orderly administrative practice.

Mr Yust has been actively identified with library extension throughout the South as a member of the Kentucky library commission, to which he was appointed by the governor, and also as president of the Kentucky library asso-

ciation, and of the Library department of the Southern educational association. He is a member of the A. L. A. Council and a life member of the association.

The list of applicants for the position left vacant by Mr Yust, thus far published contains the names of local candidates only. Under existing uncertainty as to the future policy of the Board this is not strange.

On March 21 was laid to rest all that was mortal of William Ahern, father of the editor. Born near Cork, Ireland, he came to this country when about 20 years old. He was a visitor with his daughter at the Minnetonka meeting of the A. L. A. Although 81 years of age he was alert and keen to the last. The end came suddenly without warning and apparently without pain, at the close of an active and cheerful day. His last remembered words were a kindly jest with his granddaughter. The death of a beloved son-in-law, whose long and acute suffering weighed upon his sympathetic heart, occurred but a few weeks before his own.

With the May number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Miss Ahern resumes editorial duties. True to the impulses of an active nature and to the spirit of the leader, the widely beloved editor, with whose loss many will sympathize, finds in her accustomed place such solace for personal bereavement as the work of one's hands, amid the friends and surroundings of one's life-calling, may offer. E. C. D.

A Code for Classifiers

Mr William Stetson Merrill, classifier of the Newberry library, Chicago, is broaching the subject of an official code for classifiers. At the A. L. A. conference in Pasadena last year, a short paper of his was read in which he claimed that such a code is practicable and urged the appointment of a committee of the American library association to consider the question.

Mr Merrill has lately presented the subject more in detail in two lectures delivered before the Library school of the University of Illinois on March 18 and

19. He bases his contention upon the point that library classification as the science of grouping the subjects treated in books may be distinguished from the practical art of placing books in their appropriate places in a scheme of classification.

The decision which must so frequently be made between two or more possible places in which to class a book rests, he claims, or should rest, to secure consistency, upon certain principles. A tentative presentation of these principles was made in his lectures with a view to calling forth comment and to awakening interest in the compilation of a code of rules, based upon the practice of the most experienced classifiers, which shall serve as a guide in the art of assigning books to their appropriate places in a scheme of classification.

Interesting Things in Print

It is necessary for all who make researches in any way touching the bibliographical field to become acquainted with the official, semi-official and trade bibliographies of various countries. A guide to these most valuable tools is offered in "National bibliographies: a descriptive catalog of the works which register the books published in each country," by Robert Alexander Peddie, London (Grafton), 1912. The arrangement is alphabetic by countries. The classified contents show catalogs from Asia, Africa, and Australasia, as well as from all the countries of Europe. North, South and Central America and the West Indies. Mr Peddie is well known as the author of a number of important contributions to bibliography.

R. R. Bowker's new hand book on "Copyright," just published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., is the first to include the new American code of 1909, and the British code of 1911. It treats in full all the several features of these and other codes, and is intended for the use of authors—artistic, dramatic, and musical, as well as literary—publishers, lawyers and the public.

Library Meetings

Atlantic City—The sixteenth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania library club and the New Jersey library association was held in the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, March 8-9, 1912. There were over 200 in attendance, this number including librarians and trustees from 12 different states. The regular meetings were preceded by the annual conference of the Eastern league of library commissions, whose sessions began Thursday evening and ended Friday afternoon.

The first meeting was held on Friday evening, with Dr Edward J. Nolan, President of the Pennsylvania Library club, in the chair. Dr Nolan presented the Hon. Harry Bacharach, Mayor of Atlantic City, who welcomed the members of the two associations in a very gracious manner, presenting the key of the city as an evidence of his good will, after which Dr Nolan gave a short sketch of the life of the late Mayor Stoy, who had greeted the three associations on so many former visits.

Dr Ernest Lacy, head of the Department and professor of the English language and literature, Central high school, Philadelphia, was the next speaker, giving a short talk on "The reconciliation between the ideal and the real in literature." (This paper will be published in full in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.)

Mr Stan. V. Henkels, the next speaker, presented some of his experiences as a book auctioneer, the "Incidents and anecdotes in the life of a book auctioneer," proving most interesting.

On Saturday afternoon a tea was held from 4:30 until 6 o'clock, which proved a great success. The interchange of ideas over the tea cups, being a new and novel idea, appealed to the majority, it giving an opportunity of a more personal touch.

Miss Elizabeth Howland Wesson, librarian of the Free library, Orange (N. J.) and president of the New Jersey library association, presided at the Saturday morning meeting. Dr William Harvey Allen, director of the Bureau of municipal research, New York City, gave a most enthusiastic talk on "The

library's opportunity to further efficient government." After his formal address, Dr Allen remained on the floor and engaged in a stimulating discussion in which Dr Richardson, Mr MacFarland, Mr George, Mr Hill, Dr Leipziger, Mr Kimball, Mr Bliss, Mr Legler, Mr Sensor, Dr Gould, and others joined.

At the close of the session a resolution was introduced and approved, suggesting the passage of a bill which would put scientific periodicals on the same postage basis as regular magazines and periodicals.

Dr E. C. Richardson, librarian of the Princeton university library, presided very delightfully at the Saturday evening session. The program opened with a lecture-recital on Paul Lawrence Dunbar, by Paul M. Pearson of the Department of public speaking, Swarthmore college. After reviewing the life and varying environment of his subject, Dr Pearson illustrated the various phases of the writing of Dunbar by giving with unusual charm, well selected examples of his poems, dialect verse, and spirituals. Dr Pearson was followed by Dr Melville Dewey who spoke in his usual inspiring manner on the library as a means to an end. He outlined the essential points in the development of public libraries and taking up many points brought out in the morning's discussion, prophesied a more efficient future.

Saturday afternoon the Pennsylvania library club and the New Jersey library association gave an informal reception in the parlors of the hotel to all those attending the conference. Mrs E. C. Richardson and Mrs T. J. Montgomery poured. Dancing followed the Saturday evening session. Altogether the conference was voted one of the most successful in recent years.

EDNA B. PRATT, JEAN E. GRAFFEN,
Secretaries.

Reports of meetings of unusual interest from Massachusetts, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Long Island and other library clubs will appear in the May issue.

Wisconsin—The twenty-first annual meeting of the Wisconsin library association was held at the Janesville public library, February 21-23, 1912. The meeting was one of the most inspirational in the history of the association and showed the largest attendance, the paid membership reaching 112. The keynote of the meeting was "The library as an educational and civic force."

The Wednesday evening meeting opened with music by the Janesville symphony orchestra. Miss Lutie E. Stearns of the Wisconsin free library commission gave a summary of the books of 1911 with characteristic force. Miss Stearns selected from the 11,000 books which have come from the press this past year those of particular value, and pointed out their excellencies. Miss Stearns' talk was followed by a selection by the Lotus male quartette.

"Books to read for pleasure" was presented by Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine of Madison. Miss Hazeltine discussed a few books peculiarly enjoyable and closed with: "After all, whether a book is read through rapidly for the appeal of the plot, whether it is read more slowly for the charm of its style, whether it is read as a whole or only in part . . . the point is—does it give pleasure, is it a joy of anticipation to take it up, a joy fulfilled to put it down, a lasting joy to remember?"

The program of the evening closed with dramatic readings from the modern Celtic drama by Dr and Mrs Reuben Gold Thwaites, Mr and Mrs Jillson and Mr M. S. Dudgeon.

The program was followed by an informal reception in the children's room of the library, given in honor of Dr Thwaites and his associates.

The Thursday morning session was opened by Miss Mary E. Carpenter of Madison, in a round table discussion, "Librarian's tools and library literature." The librarians were invited to look over the material there for exhibition.

The regular session began at ten o'clock. Hon J. C. Nichols, mayor of Janesville, welcomed the association and

expressed his appreciation of the value of a library as a most important factor in the education of the masses.

In his response to the Mayor's address Mr M. S. Dudgeon of Madison brought out the point that the library is not a luxury but a great educational institution. Its big work is to furnish aid to the workman—aid that will make for efficiency. The library should not serve the idler as such but should furnish recreation and inspiration to the worker.

The president's address was delivered by Judge C. L. Fifield, president of the library board and acting president of the association. He urged the librarians to take the suggestions they should gain from the association meetings and apply them to their local conditions. Judge Fifield suggested that there should be more care in the buying of books. Librarians could advantageously visit second-hand book stores and auction sales. He also emphasized for libraries the importance of full sets of bound magazines as the best source for research work.

A conference of teachers and librarians was opened by Mr H. C. Buell, superintendent of the Janesville schools.

Miss Mary A. Smith of the Madison public library presented "What the library needs from the schools." This paper was so strong in its call for better co-operation between librarians and teachers that it will be published in the Wisconsin *Library Bulletin* and also as a separate, copies of which may be had upon request sent to the Commission.

Mr Thomas Lloyd Jones, principal of the Madison high school, discussed "Opportunity of the public library to serve the high school." He told of the valuable assistance rendered to his own high school by the Madison public library. Madison is the first city of Wisconsin to give the students systematic training in the use of the library.

Following this came a discussion by Miss Mary E. Watkins, assistant at the Madison public library, in which she deplored the lack of training of the high school students in the use of the library resources. She outlined the scheme which

is being worked out successfully at Madison.

Mr Buell then called for a free discussion of possibilities for librarians and teachers working together to develop the children's love of good literature.

Miss Louise Encking, librarian of the Oshkosh normal school, delivered a paper on "Teaching library methods in normal schools," in which she emphasized the importance of such a course to the students who are to teach children. Since the library is to be her chief auxiliary after she leaves school she must know its resources. Miss Encking outlined the course given in the normal schools of Wisconsin. The librarian of the White-water normal, Miss Fanny Jackson, discussed this paper.

The session of Thursday afternoon, February 22, was opened by President Charles McKenny of the Milwaukee normal school, who gave a most inspirational address on "The book in education and life." He described the six lunettes in the Library of Congress, showing the evolution of the book. He said that next to individuals books have the greatest influence on the lives of men. The alphabet is the greatest invention of the age and the second greatest invention of the human race is the printing press. The history of the book is the history of humanity.

Mr C. E. McLenegan, librarian of the Milwaukee public library, presented a very strong paper on "The library as an educational agency." He emphasized the fact that if we wish our libraries to be the great continuous means of education we must acquaint the school children with its resources.

Mr C. B. Roden of the Chicago public library followed Mr. McLenegan with an address on "The library as a paying investment." (This paper will appear in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.)

Hon W. H. Hatton conducted a trustees' meeting. Librarians and trustees discussed informally questions of mutual interest.

In the business meeting that followed the President appointed the following

committee on nominations: Miss Ada J. McCarthy, Miss Flora B. Roberts, Miss Caroline Voswinkel; committee on resolutions: Miss Mary E. Dousman, Miss Julia Rupp, Miss Nellie Myers.

Thursday at six o'clock the association was entertained at tea at the home of Mrs A. P. Lovejoy of Janesville. Here the librarians had the opportunity of meeting each other and spent a social hour and a half.

Thursday evening Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen addressed the association on "The educational value of children's literature." Mrs. Thorne-Thomsen's greatest plea was the story for the pure joy that it brings the child. Only those, she says, who do not know children or children's literature will contend for the ethical value of the story. Great literature gives no particular lesson in ethics any more than the beautiful in Nature. Tell the story as it is in its beauty and let the child interpret for himself, let him admire the heroic in it; let him hear, feel the glow and desire to imitate. As the story should not be used to teach ethics neither should its purpose be to teach science or to teach good English essentially. The story takes a phase of life, puts it in order, enlarges the child's view of life's meaning. It stimulates the imagination and gives new images. Give the child so much of the best, the great and the beautiful that he will grow up to understand and appreciate and to love only the best.

The Friday morning meeting opened with a business session. The nominating committee made the following report: President, Hon W. H. Hatton, New London; Vice-president, Lydia E. Kinsley, Janesville public library; Secretary, Delia G. Ovitz, State normal school, Milwaukee; Treasurer, Flora B. Roberts, Superior public library. Miss Ovitz said that she would be unable to serve, and the report was referred back to the committee which named Miss Julia Rupp of Oshkosh as Secretary in Miss Ovitz' place. The report of the committee was then unanimously accepted and the Secre-

retary was instructed to cast the ballot as read. In the absence of Miss Dousman, chairman of the committee on resolutions, Miss Rupp presented the thanks of the association for the many courtesies extended by the board of trustees, librarian and staff of the Janesville public library and all who had taken part on the program or assisted in any way in making a success of the meeting. The treasurer's report was read and referred to an auditing committee of two to be appointed by the chair. Miss Agnes Van Valkenburg's resignation as President of the association was read and accepted. On motion of Mr M. S. Dudgeon, Miss Agnes Van Valkenburg was made an honorary member of the association.

Invitations for the next state library meeting from Wausau and Milwaukee were received. In view of the fact that the librarians met last year in Milwaukee and this year at Janesville, the association voted to accept the invitation of Wausau, feeling that the northern part of the state should have recognition.

The feasibility of a joint meeting of the Wisconsin state library association with the Wisconsin teachers' association was discussed and it was moved and voted that the executive committee be asked to consider the advisability of such a plan and report at the next annual meeting. It was voted that a by-law be drafted asking that a copy of every paper read by a member before the association at its annual meeting be secured by the secretary before the close of the session, this copy to be filed with the proceedings of the meeting.

The question of the affiliation of the State library association with the A. L. A. was next discussed. It was voted that the general plan be approved by the association, the details to be worked out later by the executive committee.

"Advertising the library" was discussed by Mr Paul Neystrom of Oshkosh. Mr Neystrom believes that the library as a business proposition should be advertised as a business is advertised.

Miss Maud van Buren gave a talk on

"Civic pride in the library" in which she maintained that civic pride in a library is the result only of good house-keeping in the library and a sincere interest on the part of the librarian in all the wants of all its borrowers.

"The library and the foreign citizen" by Miss Flora B. Roberts of Superior showed the need of more material in foreign languages. Miss Roberts said "While in some cases supplying books in foreign languages may have retarded the acquisition of our language on the other hand it has hastened assimilation."

Miss Kate Potter of Baraboo then discussed "The library and the rural community," telling especially of her work with the Ringling Brothers' circus in their winter quarters.

In "The library as a place of business" Miss Ada McCarthy of Marinette showed how the library should supply each workman special material on his particular line of work. The working man must be made to see that it really pays for him to use the library.

Miss Mary Calkin of Racine in her paper "The library and its branches" maintained that the location of the branch is the all important question.

"The library and university extension" was presented by Mr George B. Averill who is actively engaged in the important field of extension work for the University of Wisconsin.

"The library and municipal reference work" by Mr Leo Tiefenthaler of Milwaukee showed the great opening work of the municipal reference library project. (Paper to be published in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.)

The meeting closed on Friday afternoon with a round table on "Possibilities for children's work in the small library" conducted by Miss Margaret Lathrop. The discussion included the following topics: How may children's reading be guided; What constitutes a good edition; Periodicals for the children's room; Methods of reaching children through the school; Shall there be a story hour in the small library?

DELIA G. OVITZ, Secretary.

A. L. A. Conference at Ottawa

The annual conference of the American Library Association will be held this year at Ottawa, Canada, June 26 to July 2. The first and thus far only Canadian meeting of the A. L. A. was held at Montreal in 1900. The past 12 years have seen notable progress to the library profession both in the United States and Canada and those who attended the Montreal conference will doubtless find their minds reverting from Ottawa to the library situation when last we met with our northern members. Indications point to a large attendance. The local committee is already at work arranging for our comfort and accommodation; the program committees of the A. L. A., and the various affiliated associations and sections are already engaged in framing the Ottawa program and are determined that with the assistance of contributing librarians and specialists it shall be no whit behind that of previous conferences; and the travel committee have travel plans sufficiently formulated to give all necessary preliminary information. Complete details may be expected in the May A. L. A. *Bulletin*.

Preliminary travel announcement

While application for a special reduced rate on account of the A. L. A. Conference has been made, it seems doubtful if such rate will fall much below the regular summer excursion round trip which will be in force to Ottawa from most points in eastern and central United States. This rate varies greatly from different points in comparison with the one-way fare. We advise all to consult their home railway agents regarding it, and regarding possibilities of a variable rate going and returning.

If the going trip does not pass through Montreal and you desire to take the post-conference trip, tickets should be bought if possible to Montreal, via Ottawa with stop-over privilege at Ottawa for the conference, and at Montreal for the post-conference trip.

From eastern Canadian points a round-trip rate on the certificate plan will prob-

ably be granted us, on basis of one and three-fifths fares, or possibly one and a third, provided 50 or more certificates are presented at the meeting.

Party travel plans

To accommodate those desiring to travel together and have all arrangements for their comfort made, the Travel Committee will operate three special excursions to Ottawa, one from Boston, one from New York, and one from Chicago.

Boston party

(Includes eastern and central New England.)

Special sleepers will leave Boston early on the evening of June 25, running probably via Boston & Maine, Central Vermont and Grand Trunk railways, due to arrive in Ottawa about noon June 26, the opening day of conference.

The round trip fare Boston to Ottawa will probably be \$19.40 and lower berth \$2.50 one way.

Reservations for this party should be made with Frederick W. Faxon, 83 Francis St., Boston, and deposit covering Pullman will later be required.

New York party

(Including eastern Atlantic states.)

This party will leave New York on the evening of June 25 by Albany night boat, thus ensuring a restful night journey. From Albany special parlor cars will be used, the party reaching Ottawa about supper time, June 26, thus giving a pleasant daylight trip through the Eastern Adirondack mountains.

The round trip excursion rate will be about \$22.00 from New York City, which includes stateroom berth on boat and parlor car seat going.

Tickets will be good returning all rail. Rate from Philadelphia will be \$4.50 in addition to the above.

This party will be in charge of C. H. Brown, Brooklyn public library, and deposit covering stateroom berth and parlor car seat for going trip will be required later.

Chicago party

(Including the Middle West.)

A special Pullman train will be run from Chicago to Ottawa without change, leaving Chicago the afternoon of June 25, arriving at Ottawa on the afternoon

of the next day. Round trip fare from Chicago to Ottawa will be \$2.00, lower berth \$5.00 one way. Reservations for this party should be made with John F. Phelan, Chicago public library and deposit covering Pullman will be required later.

Attractive return trips with low rates by way of Boston, New York, Niagara Falls, Washington, Norfolk, etc., will be announced in the May *Bulletin*. Special rates from points west of Chicago will be made, based on the round trip fare from Chicago to Ottawa.

Those returning by way of Niagara Falls will have choice either of all rail to Chicago, or boat from Buffalo to Detroit, without extra charge.

Complete information regarding routes and rates will be announced in the May A. L. A. *Bulletin*.

Post conference trip (July 3 to July 9.)

A post conference trip is planned on the St. Lawrence and Saguenay rivers, ending at Montreal on the morning of July 9. The cost of this week-long river trip will be well within \$40—including stateroom (holding two persons), meals and side excursions. An outline of this trip follows:

The party will leave Ottawa on Wednesday morning, July 3, arriving in Montreal for lunch and will spend the afternoon and evening in seeing the city, visiting McGill university and the Westmount public library. On Wednesday evening, July 3, the party takes special steamer and proceeds down the river, passing Quebec the next morning, calling in the afternoon at the little French village of Les Eboulements, and later at Tadousac at the mouth of the Saguenay. Between Tadousac and Capes Eternity and Trinity occurs the very finest scenery on the Saguenay; and this part of the route will be traversed while the sun is setting and the late moon rising, so that the Capes themselves may be seen by moonlight. Early next morning the steamer will be at Ha Ha Bay, near Chicoutimi, and chosen instead of the latter as the turning-point of the excursion.

Having ascended the Saguenay by night the descent will be made by day with a long stop at the Capes, and at Tadousac. Thence the steamer will cross the St. Lawrence here 18 to 20 miles wide, in order to give the party an additional taste of salt water and also to get the effect of the sunset on the northern cliffs. The next day will be spent at Murray Bay; the next (Sunday) at Quebec. Three Rivers at the mouth of the St. Maurice river will be reached on Monday morning, and there a landing will be made for a day's excursion to Shawinigan Falls. On Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock the Post-Conference trip will end at Montreal in time for all home-bound trains.

C. H. Gould, McGill university library, Montreal, will make all arrangements for this trip.

The A. L. A. Travel Committee:

FREDERICK W. FAXON, Chairman,
83 Francis St., Boston, Mass.

CHARLES H. BROWN,
26 Brevoort Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

JOHN F. PHELAN,
Chicago Public Library, Chicago, Ill.

C. H. GOULD,
McGill University Library, Montreal, Canada.

Ottawa hotels

Headquarters will be at the Chateau Laurier, the new hotel which has been in course of construction for the past three or four years and which the management is planning to open Empire Day, the 24th of May. Rooms (without meals) will be from \$1.25 up to \$3.50. Table d'hôte dinner will be served for \$1.00; other meals will be on European plan.

The New Russell Hotel, at present the best in Ottawa, is about a minute's walk from the Chateau Laurier. Rooms (without meals) from \$1.00 up to \$3.50. Meals on European plan.

Grand Union Hotel, about five minutes' walk from Chateau Laurier, offers rate of \$2.50 a day, American plan.

Detailed information regarding hotel rates and reservations will be given in the May A. L. A. *Bulletin*.

N. E. A. Meeting

The National education association announces the 50th annual conference to be held in Chicago July 6-12, 1912. The two headquarters hotels—The Congress and The Auditorium—have offered the use of any rooms desired for *state headquarters without extra charge* above the usual rates for two persons in each room. It is hoped that this very liberal arrangement will make it possible for every state to have a headquarters room as a rallying place, and for social and business conferences of the members of each state.

All officers and members of the N. E. A. are earnestly solicited to make special efforts to extend notice of this convention and to secure a large attendance at the July meeting in Chicago.

There was a larger attendance at the recent St. Louis convention of the Department of superintendence (February 26-29) than at any former meeting of that department. The papers and discussions were of unusual interest and value. The proceedings of the convention will be published and distributed to the active members in attendance and to all other active members who make request for the same. Copies to others will be supplied at 25 cents each.

IRWIN SHEPARD, Secretary.

School Librarians—Meeting

A conference of school librarians will be held in New York City on Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25, under the auspices of the Committee on high school libraries for the New York state library association with the co-operation of the New York High school librarians' association. The meetings will be open to all who care to attend.

Program

Friday, May 24—Visits to school libraries in New York and vicinity.

The following schools are suggested by the committee as well worth visiting: High school, Passaic, N. J.; Barringer High school, Newark, N. J.; Libraries of Teachers' college, Horace Mann school, and Columbia university; Morris high

school, The Bronx, Wadleigh high school, Manhattan. Special itineraries will be planned for those desiring them.

4 p. m.—Reception to visiting librarians by the New York high school librarians' association at Erasmus Hall high school, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Saturday, May 25, 9:30 a. m.—At the Girls' high school, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Topic: How can we make the library of greatest service?

9:30-10:30—Some things which have proved practically helpful in a school library. Five minute reports from several schools.

10:30-11:30—Training students in the use of books.

11:30-12:30—Directing the general reading of students.

Saturday, May 25, 2:30 p. m.—General session.

Topic: The library as a reinforcement of the school.

Address by Dr William Dawson Johnston, librarian, Columbia university.

Discussion by principals and teachers of secondary schools.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Atlanta

Miss Florence Bradley, '06, has been appointed head of the Circulation department of the Carnegie library of Atlanta to succeed Miss Anna Mae Stevens, whose marriage took place on February 20.

Miss Fanny Turner, '11, has succeeded Miss Bradley as secretary of the Library training school.

The lectures from visiting lecturers will begin in March, when Miss Edna Lyman comes for her usual week of instruction in children's work.

The class this year had the unusual advantage of a lecture during the first term. November 17, Dr Arthur E. Bostwick of St. Louis, gave a very enjoyable talk on the Companionship of books.

Dr Bostwick had come south to attend the meeting of the Alabama library association in Tuscaloosa, and made the visit to Atlanta at the invitation of the school.

DELIA FOREACRE SNEED, Principal.

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh—Training school for children's librarians

Dr Austin Baxter Keep lectured on February 23 on Colonial libraries.

Mr Henry E. Legler gave the following lectures on March 5 and 6:

Extension work of the Chicago public library; The child and the library; Poetry for children; A shelf of children's books.

Miss Mildred Subers, a graduate of Drexel institute library school has entered the Training school as a special student.

Drexel institute

The monthly library visit for February took the school to Wilmington for a most interesting afternoon in the Wilmington institute free public library. Mr Bailey sketched the history of the library, showing the results of its change from a semi-private to a public library, and explaining the unique features in the methods by which the city provides for the financial support of the library. The class was then shown the different departments of the library in action, and finished the afternoon with a visit to the "Old Swedes" church.

On Thursday, March 7, Mr Legler gave an illustrated lecture on "The extension work of the Chicago public library." This was the first lecture from the interest of the "Alice B. Kroeger memorial lectureship fund," and graduates, living in or near Philadelphia, were invited to attend.

The whole class was present at the meeting of the Pennsylvania library club on February 19, when Mr John Thomson read a paper on Trollope, and they also attended the Atlantic City meeting from March 10-11. As usual, a Drexel reunion was held there, the graduates and the present class meeting at dinner at the Chelsea on Saturday evening. Mr Legler was the guest of honor.

Another pleasant feature of the Atlantic City meeting was the reception given to the class on Friday at the Atlantic City public library, by Miss Alvar-etta Abbott, Drexel, '99, whose niece is a member of the class of 1912.

The class in public documents made a

visit to the Document division of the Free library of Philadelphia, at the Spring Garden branch, on Tuesday, March 5. To facilitate the examination of the collection, the class was divided into sections, each of which spent about two hours in the Document division. This collection enabled them to see the arrangement of a depository collection by serial number, and also department publications, arranged by departments. Each student practiced finding material on the shelves by the aid of the Document catalog and other indexes, and was able to observe the change from the old "sheepbound set" to the "Library edition." The forerunners of the "Congressional record," the "Annals of Congress," "Register of Congressional debates," and the "Congressional globe" were noted, and the bulky volumes of the Patent office: the "Specifications and drawings," and the "Official gazette," were handled by each student. In this short visit it was impossible to examine the important collection of state publications which this library contains.

Graduate notes

Edna Stone Stewart, Drexel, '10, has resigned from the children's department of the Brooklyn public library, to accept the position as head of the circulation department of the Osterhout free library, Wilkes-Barré, April 1.

Helen Louise Keller, Drexel, '10, has resigned from the American philosophical library, to become librarian of the Independence inspection bureau, Philadelphia.

Mildred Subers, Drexel, '11, has resigned from the Johns Hopkins university library to accept a position in the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Hazel Irene Dayton, Drexel, '11, will enter the Osterhout library in April, as an assistant in the circulating department.

Rosalie V. Halsey, Drexel, '03 is the author of "Forgotten books of the American nursery," just published by Goodspeed.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,
Director.

School of education, University of Chicago

The Winter quarter ends March 31; examinations will be held March 21-23. The Spring quarter opens April 1.

The course of forty lectures in "Children's literature, and story-telling," by Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen has extended through the entire winter term. Several of the students have begun their story telling to children in the branches of the Chicago public library.

The course of forty lectures on "Children's literature," given by Miss Jessie Black in the Autumn quarter, is now being repeated in the University of Chicago correspondence department, and also in the University college. The registration in both departments has been larger than anticipated, showing that there is a need for systematic study along this line.

The visits to various libraries and business houses in Chicago which were begun in the early autumn will continue throughout the year. One of the most profitable excursions was the afternoon spent in the University of Chicago press, where the students had the opportunity to observe in detail the various processes employed in binding and printing. Preceding this visit Miss Katherine M. Stillwell, Head of the department of printing in the School of education, had given several lectures on printing and proof-reading and the students had visited the School of education press and watched the children printing.

Each student has done at least 120 hours of practice work in one of the branches of the Chicago public library. The work has been largely done in the Hiram Kelly, Lincoln Center and Blackstone branches. Next quarter each student will be given an assignment of practice work in another branch of the Chicago public library.

The following appointments have been received by students of the class of 1911:

Miss Clara G. Sullivan has been appointed librarian of the Clyde township high school.

Miss Mary Keeney has been appointed an assistant in the Tacoma public library.

Miss Tennessee Malone has been appointed librarian of the West Texas state normal school.

Miss Alice Carr was married to Mr LeRoy Giddings, of Oak Park, Ill.

IRENE WARREN,

Instructor library economics.

University of Illinois

The students, in charge of Professor A. S. Wilson, assistant director, and Miss Florence R. Curtis, instructor, visited the libraries of St. Louis, Jacksonville, and Springfield, March 5-9, inclusive, and report a most profitable trip. One and all speak in terms of highest appreciation of the uniform hospitality of the libraries, the printing, binding, and engraving establishment, and the institutions visited. Even the hotels and the travel arrangements were good, only the weather was bad. The itinerary was, in brief, as follows: Tuesday forenoon, St. Louis public library; afternoon, Crunden branch, Soulard branch; in the evening the students were guests at a meeting of the public library staff. Wednesday forenoon, Woodward and Tiernan Printing company; afternoon, Cabanne branch and Washington university library; Thursday forenoon, Missouri botanical garden library, Mercantile library; afternoon, East St. Louis public library; Friday afternoon, Jacksonville public library, Illinois schools for the blind and deaf; Saturday forenoon, Springfield public library, Lincoln home, State library, State historical library; afternoon, Supreme Court law library, Lincoln monument.

The Library club met March 13, at the home of Miss Simpson and Miss Price, and listened to a delightful talk on Dickens by Dr Baldwin, professor of English in the University. This was followed by a tableau vivant in which the juniors appeared in costume, representing a number of Dickens characters. The latter part of the evening was given over to refreshments and dancing. About sixty were present.

Mr John B. Kaiser, assistant in charge of the economics departmental library, will give in April one lecture on Law libraries, two on Legislative reference

libraries, and two on Municipal reference libraries.

New York public library

Non-faculty lectures since the last report, have been as follows:

Feb. 1.—Mr E. H. Anderson. Second lecture on the large library building.

Feb. 2.—Mr Edward L. Tilton. The library building from the architect's point of view.

Feb. 5.—Mrs Adelaide B. Maltby. The administration of the branch library.

Feb. 6 and 14.—Miss A. C. Moore. The administration of the children's room.

Feb. 7.—Mr E. H. Anderson on the branch library building.

Feb. 9.—Miss Louise G. Hinsdale. The administration of the town library.

Feb. 12 and 19.—Mr E. H. Anderson. The administration of the large library.

Feb. 14.—Mr Thomas Letts (of the New York Geographical society) on the history of map-making.

Feb. 16, 23, and Mar. 1.—Miss Adelaide Hasse, on Government documents.

Feb. 21.—Symposium on the work with children, by Misses Browne, Carter, Cutler, Dalphin, Overton, and Schumm, children's librarians.

February 26, Mr Benjamin Adams, "Administration of a branch-library system." On the same date, in the afternoon, Mr W. H. Brett, of the Cleveland public library, on that library's work.

February 27, 29, March 5, 7, 13 and 14, Mr W. R. Eastman, of the New York state library, on "Library buildings."

March 1, Miss Mary E. Wood, librarian of Boone college, Wuchang, China, on the experiences of a librarian during the Chinese revolution.

March 4 and 11, Mr Edward F. Stevens, of the Pratt institute free library, on "Copyright and net prices," and "Book-buying," and on March 18, on "Technological collections in libraries."

March 12, Mr Henry E. Legler, of the Chicago public library, on the "Knowledge and love of books," and on the important subject, "Affiliations possible for a large library system."

March 15, a complimentary lecture by Mr Edward L. Tilton, the architect, on "Making library building plans."

On the evening of February 8, Mr George A. Plimpton spoke to the Library staff and the School on his collection of early text-books, now on exhibition at the library.

Mr E. W. Gaillard spent two hours with the class explaining the history and use of the various blanks and forms used by the circulation department, and Mr W. H. Schwarten gave the students an hour in the printery and in the bindery, with full explanation of the processes. The printery also supplied the class with material for proof-correcting, a full set of proof corrector's marks, etc.

On Valentine's day, the school gave a valentine party to the faculty and various members of the library staff, the decorations, entertainment, etc., being entirely a student undertaking and very successful.

Two examinations for probationers have been given since the last report, one on January 20, the other on February 17.

Visits to the library's printery and bindery took place during the month of February, under the guidance of the head of the department, Mr W. H. Schwarten. Each student has a full set of samples of binding leathers, cloths, etc., for future reference.

The School had the pleasure of meeting Mr Brett and Mr Legler at tea after their respective lectures, and on the second occasion of meeting Misses Urserud and Graarud, librarians from Christiania and Christiansund, Norway.

A very thorough and delightful surprise was planned by the School early in March to celebrate a birthday belonging to one of the faculty. A huge birthday cake, mysterious gifts, and congratulatory telegrams from crowned heads and rulers generally, made up the festive program.

The students attended the meeting of the New York library club at the new building of the Union theological seminary on March 13.

Miss Newberry of the class is making a bibliography of Maria Montessori and

her new educational method, for the School department of the library. Miss Furniss, also of the class, is assisting in the organization of the library of the Equal franchise association.

The faculty of the school, with those graduates of the New York state library school, who are in the main building of the library, tendered a luncheon to Mr W. R. Eastman on March 14, at the end of his course of lectures.

Although no mention of a library trip was made in the School circular, ten or eleven students with an instructor will visit New England libraries during the week from March 22 to 29, seeing the libraries of Springfield, Worcester, Boston and suburbs, Providence and New Haven.

MARY W. PLUMMER, Principal.
Pratt institute

The annual luncheon of the Graduates' association was held January 31 at the Crescent athletic club in Brooklyn. It was the first time the luncheon has been held in Brooklyn and there was some apprehension that the attendance would suffer, but seventy-six were present, only five less than the largest previous attendance, and the attractive surroundings made the occasion unusually festive. The speaker, Mr Robert Haven Schauffler, paid a high tribute to the "creative librarian," whose sympathetic attitude encouraged the germination of ideas in the library user. Mr Schauffler also recited the poem, "Scum of the earth" (*Atlantic Monthly*, Nov., 1911), which met with instant response. No worker among the foreign born should fail to read it.

Mr Arthur L. Bailey, of Wilmington, lectured before the school on January 30 on the problems of a medium-sized library. Mr Arthur E. Bostwick lectured on February 6 on the St. Louis public library, with lantern slide pictures. The staff and training class of the Brooklyn public library were invited to hear their former librarian, and many availed themselves of the opportunity. On February 14, Miss Corinne Bacon talked of the means by which the Newark public library adapted itself to the needs of the

community. Tea was served in the classroom after each of the lectures, and the students had the pleasure of discussing, informally, the points brought up in the lectures. The next three lectures in the course were given by graduates of our own school. Miss Annie Carroll Moore, of the New York public library, spoke on the principles of selection for children's books on February 20; on February 27, Miss Louise G. Hinsdale, librarian of the East Orange public library, gave a talk on the administrative problems of the smaller libraries, and Miss Mary E. Hall, librarian of the Girls' high school, Brooklyn, spoke to the class on March 5 on the opportunity of the High School library. On the morning of March 11, the school had the pleasure of welcoming Mr Henry E. Legler, who spoke on the plan for ascertaining staff efficiency that prevails in the Chicago public library system. In the afternoon of that day, Mr Legler gave a lantern slide lecture on the needs of Chicago and the work that the Chicago public library was doing to meet them. The staff and training class of the Brooklyn public library was invited to this lecture. The last speaker of the course this term will be Miss Sarah B. Askew, assistant state librarian of New Jersey, who will speak on the social element in small communities.

Alumni notes

Miss Edith M. Peck, '93, of the library staff of the Pratt Institute free library, has been granted a six months' leave of absence in order to take charge of the public library at Southbridge, Mass., during the absence of the librarian.

Miss Emily Turner, '98, has accepted the temporary librarianship of the Muskogee (Oklahoma) free public library. Miss Turner is still connected with the "Indexers" but was made librarian in order that she might have a free hand to introduce new methods and make changes.

Miss Susan R. Clendenin, '01, has gone to Watertown, Florida, to catalog a large private library of Americana and other rare books.

Miss Marion S. Morse, '01, for ten years librarian of the Union Settlement library in New York, has been made librarian of the public library at Millbrook, N. Y.

Miss Adelaide F. Evans, '02, instructor in cataloging in the Western Reserve library school, has been made head cataloger of the Louisville public library for a temporary term of 18 months.

The school has just received a very thorough and scholarly Civic bibliography for Greater New York, which was largely the work of Miss Catherine S. Tracey (1905-06) and Miss Elsie Adams '98. The volume was published by the Russell Sage Foundation.

The school had a visit recently from Miss Mary E. Wood, a special student of the class of 1907, librarian of the Boone college library at Wuchang, China. Miss Wood is enthusiastic over the outcome of the revolution in China and in thorough sympathy with the aims of the leaders of the new movement.

Miss Katharine De Witt Rathbun '10, has accepted a position in the Aguilar branch of the New York public library.

Miss Ruth Townsend '10, has been made head of the Far Rockaway branch of the Queensborough public library.

Miss Alice S. Griswold, '11, has been appointed librarian of the Hartford county medical society.

Miss Helen Sayer, '11, has been engaged as a substitute in the Pratt institute free library.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-Director.

Simmons college

A brief course in Portuguese is given this term for the first time to those library students offering three years of French and a year and a half of Spanish. The increased interest in Pan American affairs has made this course desirable from the library standpoint.

In addition to the regular work of the month, Mrs Sara Cone Bryant Borst has given two lectures on "Story-telling," and Miss Laura M. Sawyer, one on "Work in the Perkins institution for the blind."

Graduate notes

Lucy M. Church, '08, has been filling a temporary position as assistant in the Public library of Worcester, Mass.

Cora C. Goddard, '08, was married February 24, to Karl Gerhart Perry, of Charlestown, W. Va.

Daisie L. Miller, '10, has been put in charge of the library of North Bennett industrial school, Boston.

Ruth Shattuck, '10, has resigned from the charge of the childrens' room in the Free public library of Watertown, Mass., to assume a similar position in the Public library of Salem.

Eleanor Lyman, '11, has become an assistant in the library of the Department of agriculture in Washington.

Georgiana Lunt, A. B., '10-'11, has been appointed assistant in the library of the Arnold arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Mrs Lucinda F. Spofford, special, '10-'11, has resigned from the Public library of Milton, Mass., to take charge of one of the branches of the Public library of Somerville.

Ida E. Adams, '12, has been made librarian of the Public library of Marshfield, Ore.

Simmons summer library class

Exercises will be held this year from July 9, to August 17.

MARY E. ROBBINS.

Western Reserve university

On Monday evening, February 29, the students entertained the faculty of the school by the opening of an "Ideal library." The school office was turned into a circulating department of a library with its registration and charging desks. The stack was located in the lecture room across the hall. Many signs giving valuable information, such as, "How does this library do its charging? Up Browne;" and "What made the Publishers Weakly? To see the Readers Guyed," were hung up around this "ideal library," and caused much merriment. Restricted books, new books just from the press, and selected lists for home reading were all satirized most cleverly. After the patrons had registered, drawn books, paid fines by "labor only," they were escorted

to the study hall, attractively decorated in red, where dainty refreshments were served. It was altogether a very happy and merry occasion.

Several outside lecturers have been at the school this month. On the afternoon of March 4, Mr Legler, of Chicago, gave his very interesting and practical lecture on, How to increase the efficiency of the library staff. This lecture was enjoyed by a large number of invited guests.

The course in children's work closed with a lecture by Miss Annie Cutter, supervisor of school libraries of the Cleveland public library. She told of the school side as carried on by the public library, and conducted the class to a school library to show them the actual working out of the system.

The class in Book selection has again this year had the pleasure of listening to Mrs Hobart, librarian of the Stations department of the Cleveland public library. She outlined the work of the public library with the factories of the city.

On the evening of March 8, the class gave a picnic spread to which the faculty were invited, and an informal evening was much enjoyed.

BESSIE SARGEANT SMITH,
Acting Director.

University of Wisconsin

The regular schedule of instruction has been carried on week by week in the school, lectures and practice work in the technical subjects occupying the greater part of the students' time during the first semester. The courses in Classification and book numbers, Elementary cataloging, Loan, American trade bibliography, and Library economy (including accession and withdrawal records, shelflisting, serials, and inventory) were completed, and examinations set for each at the end of the semester.

Although the necessary technical training occupied much of the students' time, representing the business side of library work, the courses in Reference and Book selection, embodying the literary and bookish side of the profession, were given their full share of attention. These studies extend throughout the year, but

were given a mid-semester examination. The short course in Publishing houses, really part of the book selection course, closed with an exhibition prepared by the students, showing the representative lines of the different houses. The lectures in Publicity were accompanied by many exhibitions, in way of demonstration, from the collections of the school, and by a special exhibition of Japanese prints arranged by the class. The lectures in parliamentary practice were included in the work of the first semester, also two visits were paid to the Legislative reference library, to learn of its organization and methods. Several lectures in the children's course, the major part of which is given in the spring quarter, were introduced at the end of the semester, to give a foundation for the work with the children that is part of the field practice experience.

The good fortune of the school in the number and power of the speakers who came from outside its walls has continued since the last report with the following list:

Nov. 17.—Miss Isabel Ely Lord. Being a librarian.

Nov. 21.—Miss L. E. Stearns. Library spirit.

Dec. 14.—Dr Samuel McChord Crothers. The Obviousness of Dickens.

Jan. 5.—Miss Josephine A. Rathbone. The study of fiction.

Jan. 6.—Mr Frank K. Walter. Periodicals; the care of books.

Jan. 8.—Mr J. D. Phillips (head of the education department of Houghton, Mifflin Co.). The work of a publishing house.

Jan. 20.—Dr Thomas S. Adams. The evaluation of books in economics.

The first semester closed on January 30, with the usual examinations and on February 1, two months of field practice began, marking the opening of the second semester. The students were assigned among various libraries of the state for different kinds of work as follows:

Special cataloging

Janesville—February, Miss Hicks and

Miss Pfeiffer; March, Miss Hicks and Miss Eckel.

Medford—February, Miss Leaf; March, Miss Vander Haagen.

Madison, Sacred Heart academy—February and March, Miss Flower.

Menominee, Stout Institute—March, Miss Le Roy.

Monroe—February, Miss Fawcett and Miss Eckel; March, Miss Fawcett, Miss Wykes, and Miss Balch.

Library organization

Jefferson—February, Miss Vander Haagen; March, Miss Robbins.

Field work

Barron, Hayward, Hudson, New Richmond—March, Miss Thiebaud.

Dodgeville and Fox Lake—February, Miss Stetson.

Mazomanie, Spring Green, Waterloo—March, Miss Roman.

Assistance for special work

Cumberland—February, Miss Hayward.

Edgerton—February, Miss Castor.

Fond du Lac—February, Miss Cook; March, Miss Leaf.

Lake Mills—February, Miss Drake.

Madison, A. L. A. Booklist office—February and March, Miss Davis.

Marinette—February, Miss Robbins.

Viroqua—February, Miss Thiebaud; March, Miss Clausen.

Assistance in regular library work

Ashland—February, Miss Glazier; March, Miss Hayward.

Baraboo—February, Miss Wykes; March, Miss Green.

Grand Rapids—March, Miss Ives.

Madison, Free Library—February, Miss Ives and Miss Boehnken; March, Miss Castor and Miss Heins; February and March, joint course students, Miss Dickerson, Miss Ely, and Miss Farquhar.

———, Historical Library—February and March, Miss Richardson.

———, Legislative Reference Library—February, Miss Ronan, Miss Potts, and Mr Jillson; March, Miss Cook, Miss Potts, and Mr Jillson.

Marinette—March, Miss Pfeiffer.

Oshkosh—February, Miss Green and Miss Clausen; March, Miss Liedloff and Miss Smith.

Reedsburg—February, Miss Liedloff; March, Miss Glazier.

Stevens Point—February, Miss Smith; March, Miss Stetson.

Tomah—February, Miss Le Roy.

Watertown—February, Miss Balch; March, Miss Boehnken.

Waupun—February, Miss Heins; March, Miss Drake.

Library school notes

Miss Hazeltine, Miss McCullough, Miss Turvill and Miss Carpenter of the School faculty attended the conference of Library school faculties in Chicago during the week of January first. They also, with Miss Stearns, attended the League of library commissions, which held its meetings at the same time.

The organization of the class of 1912 was effected before the holiday vacation, with the election of the following officers: President, Miss Gladys Smith, Wallace, Idaho; vice-president, Mr William E. Jillson, Crete, Nebraska; secretary, Miss Ruth P. Hayward, Beloit, Wisconsin; treasurer, Miss Ethel A. Robbins, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Various merry makings have broken the tedium of the daily work. Miss Carpenter and Miss McCullough entertained the faculty and students with a Christmas party at the home of the former, just previous to the holiday vacation. A Christmas tree with presents and rhymes for all made a very jolly evening.

The faculty gave a tea in the school rooms in honor of Miss Rathbone and Mr Walter, on the occasion of their lectures to the school, thus affording the students the opportunity to meet them personally.

Dr and Mrs Thwaites entertained the school at their country home, Turvillwood, on the night of January 20. It was a jolly company, as was also the same group of people at a sleigh ride, given by Miss Boehnken a week later.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,

Preceptor.

Have you sent in any names for the A. L. A. membership list? Address G. B. Utley, A. L. A. Headquarters, Chicago. Now is the time!

Summer Library Schools Chautauqua library school

The 12th annual session of the Chautauqua library school will be held July 6-August 17. Dr Melvil Dewey will be the general director of the school. Mary E. Downey, library organizer of Ohio, will be resident director. Sabra W. Vought, assistant organizer of Ohio, and Alice E. Sanborn, librarian of Wells college, will be general instructors.

The course of study is general, and is designed for librarians and library assistants who cannot leave their work for the extended course offered in the regular library schools, but who can get leave of absence for six weeks of study to gain a broader conception of their work and a general understanding of modern methods and ideals. This course, especially planned to accomplish the most possible in six weeks, is as follows:

Library administration:—The course in library administration includes 30 lectures on the following subjects: Evolution of the library, Library training, Noted library workers, Library commissions, Developing a library, Reorganizing a library, The library trustee, The library staff, Reading of the librarian, Values in library work, Simplifying routine work, Library building and furnishing, Care of the building and grounds, The maintenance fund, Library supplies, Book selection and buying, Preparing books for the shelves, Uses of periodicals, Special collections, Work with children, Work with schools, How to use a library, Picture bulletins, Advertising a library, Local library extension, Township and county libraries, Library reports and statistics. Miss Downey.

Cataloging:—Eighteen lectures with practice work in cataloging 100 books from selected lists, illustrating the salient points of a dictionary catalog for a popular library. The revised cards are filed by the students and furnished with guides, thus making for each a sample catalog for 100 books. Lectures and practice work are also given on the use of Library of Congress cards. Each student orders from the Library of Con-

gress the cards for ten books, these are filled out and filed with the practice catalogs. Miss Vought.

Classification:—Twelve lectures in the use of the Decimal classification with practice work in assigning numbers to about 200 books, which present problems usually met in a popular library. The assigning of headings for a dictionary catalog is taken up in connection with the classification. Miss Vought.

Bibliography:—Lectures are given on the national, trade and special subject bibliographies in most general use. Miss Sanborn.

Accession:—Each student accessions a number of books, and retains the sheets after revision. The subjects relating to this department are taken up with lectures and practice in the detail work. Miss Sanborn.

Shelf-list:—Special lectures in shelf-listing, with practice work. Miss Sanborn.

Loan systems:—General principles of loan systems are taught. Students receive printed outlines of typical systems, which are discussed with special instruction in those most used. Miss Sanborn.

Reference work:—The course includes 18 lessons in the use of reference books. Questions are given out on which the students report answers with the sources of information which are compared and discussed. The Patterson library is used for laboratory work. Miss Sanborn.

Book binding and mending:—Lectures outlining the process of binding a book. The class visits the Arts and Crafts department. Samples of binding materials are shown, with explanation as to strength, durability, appearance and cost. Samples of mending materials and tools are exhibited with practical suggestions on mending books. Miss Sanborn.

The work of the staff is supplemented by special lectures from time to time, and by the regular Chautauqua program, which offers during the whole six weeks of the school a series of lectures, concerts, readings, discussions and other entertainments and facilities that have made a reputation elsewhere unequalled. Many

of the great leaders of American thought speak from its platform and not a few of the strongest men and women of other countries. The whole atmosphere of the place cannot be surpassed as a six weeks home for the average librarian or assistant who will profit greatly by this unique Chautauqua life.

The Chautauqua and Westfield libraries and books from the New York and Ohio traveling libraries are used for reference and practical work. Visits are made to the Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Jamestown libraries and to the Art Metal Construction Company.

So fine a spirit of faithfulness, enthusiasm and good fellowship prevails that much is accomplished in six weeks. Sreuous class work is supplemented by relaxation through the unsurpassed attractions which Chautauqua affords, and by occasional social festivities.

Many visiting librarians, trustees and others interested in library work attend special lectures and consult in regard to library matters, making this feature a very helpful part of the work.

The object of the course is to raise the standard of librarianship. It is open only to those who are already engaged in library work or have definite appointment to library positions. There are no entrance examinations but no one is accepted who has not had a high school course or its equivalent. Experience in library work usually of not less than a year is essential to the understanding of the technical instruction given. No one is admitted to the class who has not previously filled out a registration blank and received the official matriculation card. The class is limited to the number that can be given satisfactory instruction and supervision.

Early application should be made to Mary E. Downey, Outlook Building, Columbus, Ohio.

Columbia university

Columbia university, summer session, July 8-August 16. Library economy.

Three courses, bibliography, administration and cataloging and classification are offered to librarians, library assist-

ants, and teacher supervisors of school libraries.

Bibliography:—Isadore G. Mudge, reference librarian, Columbia university, lectures and research work in reference books and government document indexes. Lectures on "The making of a bibliography" and "Incunabula" will be given by Mr Keogh, "National bibliography" by Miss Keller, "Book printing" by Mr Dana, "Prints," by Mr Weitenkamp, "Maps" by Mr Hicks. The bibliographies of special subjects, the best books, manuals, etc., will be given by professors of the University.

Administration:—Andrew Keogh, reference librarian, Yale university; Frederick C. Hicks, assistant librarian Columbia university. Gilbert O. Ward, supervisor of high school libraries, Cleveland (O.). The administration of university and college libraries by Mr Keogh; the administration of the departments of a university library by Mr Hicks, and the supervisors of the departments of Columbia university library. The administration of school libraries with special reference to the high school library by Mr Ward. The course will include two lectures on "The Normal college library" by Miss Ida Mendenhall, "The library and grade school," by Mrs Adelaide B. Maltby, "The child's own library," by Miss Clara W. Hunt.

Lectures on "The publisher and the child's book will be given by Mr Montrose J. Moses, and "The American book-sellers" by Mr Frederick W. Jenkins.

Cataloging and classification:—Miss Helen Rex Keller, Columbia university library, Miss Sara L. Kellogg, reviser, Columbia university library.

Lectures and practice work in dictionary cataloging, and decimal classification. Text books, the A. L. A. cataloging rules, 1908. A. L. A. subject headings, 1911. Dewey decimal classification.

The tuition fee for any course or courses is \$30, with a registration fee of \$5. Students will be permitted to take all the courses in library economy, or a combination of courses selected from this subject and other departments of

the summer session, aggregating not more than six points.

For complete statement of courses and all particulars write for announcement of the summer session to the secretary of Columbia university, New York City.

Missouri library commission

The Missouri summer library school, which was begun last year at St. Louis, under the joint auspices of the Missouri library commission and the St. Louis public library, will be held during the coming summer at the State university at Columbia, by co-operation of the University and the two bodies just mentioned. The principal instructors will be Mr Henry O. Severance, librarian, and Miss Florence Whittier, assistant librarian, of the State university; Mrs Harriet P. Sawyer, chief of the instruction department of the St. Louis public library; Miss Effie L. Power, supervisor of children's work, of the same library; and Miss Elizabeth B. Wales, secretary of the Missouri library commission. It is expected that others will assist by delivering occasional lectures. The course offered to Missouri librarians will be six weeks in length and will include the usual subjects taught in a summer school of this kind. It is felt that as the school is now a regular feature of the summer instruction given at the University, it has been placed on a permanent footing and the results in the way of raising the standard of librarianship throughout the state can not but be of value.

University of Illinois

Courses in library training will be conducted during the six weeks of the summer session of the University of Illinois, beginning Monday, June 17, 1912, and ending Saturday, July 27. These courses are open only to librarians, library assistants, and those under definite appointment to such positions. They are not intended in any way as a substitute for any part of the regular two-year course of study, but they offer the advantages of a summer's study of library methods by those employed in library work who cannot spend as much as a full year or two in a library school. No credit for these courses is at present given toward the

B. L. S. degree. The courses are planned in co-operation with the Illinois library extension commission.

The two principal instructors will be Miss Florence R. Curtis, instructor in the Library school, and Miss Ione Armstrong, librarian of Fort Smith (Ark.) public library. These two will be assisted by Miss Eugenia Allin, of the Illinois library extension commission, by members of the University library staff and others, and by a reviser.

Students of the summer school use the quarters and equipment of the regular Library school and have all the advantages of the summer session of a large university, the general lecture courses, athletic affairs, etc., being open to all students. This arrangement also makes it possible for high school teachers to take part work in the Library school and part work in other departments of the University.

Tuition is free to students registering from Illinois libraries. A fee of \$12 is charged to those entering from outside the state. Application blanks and further information will be furnished by the University of Illinois library school, Urbana.

Indiana library commission

The summer school for librarians conducted by the Indiana Public Library Commission is to be free to Indiana librarians this year for the first time. The tuition fee of ten dollars, which has been required of all students in the past, will be required only of students who come from outside the state.

The course will cover briefly all the most important phases of library work. There will be a total of about 95 lectures and recitations, 20 on cataloging, 12 on classification, 10 each on administration, book selection, reference, and children's work, and 20 or 25 on minor and miscellaneous topics. As a general preparation, all students are expected to read Dana's Library primer and Bostwick's The American public library. In the course on Work with children, at least 12 books must be read.

The instructors will be Miss Scott, Miss Williams and Mr Milam of the Commission and Mr Hepburn, librarian

at Purdue university. As usual, the school is to be conducted at Earlham college, Richmond. The dates are June 26 to August 6.

CARL H. MILAM, Secretary.

Pennsylvania—The Summer school of the Free library commission, for library workers will open its second year at State college on **June 24** for a six weeks' term in connection with the Summer course for teachers. In accordance with the regular policy of such schools admission will be limited to those who are already in library work or are under written appointment to library positions.

Teachers who wish to take a course which will aid them in taking care of school libraries will have the opportunity of a thirty-hour course with Miss Connor, of the regular college library staff, and Miss Betterly, who is a specialist in library work with young people.

No entrance examination will be required but the work will be such as needs the equivalent of a high school preparation, at least.

Credentials showing that the applicant either holds a library position or is under appointment to one must be presented with the application.

Tuition will be free to all residents of Pennsylvania, others will be expected to pay a fee of \$20 at registration.

Course of study

Cataloging, including alphabeting, 15 hours. Classification, including subject headings, 18 hours.

Reference, including bibliographies and indexes, 12 hours.

Accessioning and shelflisting, each one hour.

Book selection and editions, six hours.

Book buying and ordering, two hours.

Children's work, six hours.

Mending and binding, four hours.

Loan work, two hours.

Administration, including statistics, reports, etc., three hours.

Course for teachers, 30 hours. Eighteen lectures on "How to use the library," including reference books, use of catalog, etc. Eight hours study of children's

books. Two hours on book buying.

Government documents will be specially dealt with under cataloging and reference work.

Instruction will be given in the form of lectures with as much practical work as possible.

Faculty

Thomas L. Montgomery, Secretary, Free library commission.

Robert P. Bliss, Assistant secretary, Free library commission.

Anna A. MacDonald, Consulting librarian, Free library commission.

Julia A. Hopkins, Drexel institute library school.

Helen G. Betterly, Osterhout free library, Wilkes-Barre.

Martha Conner, Carnegie library, State college.

Address all communications to the
FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION,
Harrisburg, Pa.

University of Wisconsin

The usual summer session of the Library school is announced for the season of 1912, beginning June 24, continuing for six weeks, and closing August 3. The same entrance requirements hold as in other years,—at least a high school education, and a regular library position, from which leave of absence is obtained to take the summer work.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE, Preceptor.

David City (Neb.) has centralized its social and literary interests by erecting a combined library, gymnasium and auditorium. This combination affords shower baths, swimming pool, rest room, children's room, librarian's room, reference room, kitchen and serving room, all in one building. The money for the construction of the building was raised by David City people solely by donations. The week of dedication opened with a concert followed Sunday night by a lecture on "Twentieth century ideals." Monday was given over to athletic sports, Tuesday there was another concert, Wednesday the Swiss bell ringers, Thursday a banquet and Friday a basketball game between Schuyler and David City. David City has a population of about 3,000.

Die Brücke

Intercommunication for the entire world

All bibliographers, investigators and students will be interested to hear of the establishment of an international organization named *Die Brücke* (the Bridge), 30 Schwindstrasse, Munich, Germany, under the presidency of Prof. Dr Wilhelm Ostwald of Leipsic, who received a Nobel prize, about December, 1909, for his excellent work in chemical research.

The scope of *Die Brücke* is without any limit; it includes all subjects. It intends to have interrelations with all other societies everywhere in the world, to help them, not to displace them. It probably will establish, in due course, national organs in different countries. It soon will commence to publish an international journal of intercommunication.

According to the spirit of the times, *Die Brücke* not only will use several living languages, but has officially approved the international language IDO, at least provisionally, until the governments shall have solved the problem of an auxiliary language.

It is now quite possible to foresee the *renaissance* of those glorious centuries when scientists were able to intercommunicate by means of a language common to all. That will be no longer Latin, but the international language IDO.

The principles upon which it is founded are just and clear. It contains the necessary expressiveness, logicalness, euphony, and practicability, and is able to answer easily every requirement of the international relations. IDO is the quintessence of the modern European languages. Consequently it is natural, not artificial. Many persons are able to read it, at first sight, without any study. IDO is founded upon the principle of maximum internationality, as governed by regularity and facility.

The undersigned would be pleased to furnish additional information about IDO upon request, accompanied by a two-cent stamp.

La Ponto

Interkomunikado por la tota mondo

Omna bibliografiisti, serchanti e studentanti esos interesata audar pri l'establiso di internaciona organizuro nomizita *Die Brücke* (La Ponto) 30 Schwindstrasse, München, Germanio, sub la prezidanteso di Prof. Dr Wilhelm Ostwald de Leipzig, qua recevis premio Nobel, cirke Decembro, 1909, pro ilsa ecelanta labori relate kemiala serchado.

La skopo di La Ponto esas sen ula limito; ol inkluzas omna temi. Ol intencas havar inter-relati kun omna altra societi, omnube en la mondo, por helpar, ne por vicigar oli. Ol probable establisos, olsatempe, nacional organi en diversa landi. Ol balde komencos editar internaciona jurnalo di interkomunikado.

Segun lo spirito di la prezenta tempo, La Ponto ne nur uzos plura vivanta lingui, ma ja aprobis oficiale la internaciona linguo IDO, adminime provizore, til ke la guvernantari solvabos la problemo di helpanta linguo.

Esas nun tote posibla providar la *renasko* di ta glorioza yarcenti kande ciencisti povis interkomunikar per linguo komuna ad omni. To esos ne plu la latina, ma la internaciona linguo IDO. La principi sur qui ol esas fondita esas iusta e klara. Ol kontenas la necesa expresivoso, logikeso, belsoneso e praktikebleso, ed ol povas responder facile ad omna postuli di la internaciona relati. IDO esas la quintesenco di la moderna Europana lingui. Konseque ol esas naturala, ne artificiala. Multa personi povas lektar ol, ye la unesma vido, sen ula studio. IDO esas fondita sur la principio di maxima internacioneso, segun regulozeso e komodeso.

La subskribanto esus felica furnisar plua informo pri IDO, segun demando, akompanota da postmarko di la valoro di du centoni.

EUGENE F. McPIKE,
723 East 42nd St., Chicago.

Wherever he lives, the bookseller is a humanizing influence which we cannot afford to lose in this age of iron and concrete.—*N. Y. Evening Post*.

News from the Field

East

Herbert G. Fison of Brooklyn (N. Y.) has been appointed librarian of Malden (Mass.) public library to succeed Miss Lizzie A. Williams. Mr Fison has been at the head of the Williamsburg branch of the Brooklyn library.

Malden (Mass.) public library has received for its art gallery a complete set of Medici prints. This library reports 61,300v. on the shelves, with an annual circulation of 152,000v.

The Macmillan company has recently organized a library department for the purpose of establishing closer relations with libraries throughout the country. This work will be in charge of Miss Jean MacKinnon Holt.

Mrs Achsa B. Cushman, of Hull (Que.), a former resident of Swanton (Vt.), has given the old "Central house" lot, corner of Grand ave. and First st., to the King's daughters circle to be used as a building lot for a library. The Circle has earned and has received in gifts toward this fund the sum of \$2,358. Miss Mary Bullard of Swanton has made a generous offer of such stone as the Circle may select at the quarry, providing they do not in any way infringe upon the rights of the Barney marble company.

Addison (Vt.)—The branch library in the Nortontown district has a new room. The Newell union memorial building, dedicated February 2, contains one main audience hall for religious and social gatherings and a smaller room designed especially for a library room, for the branch library previously cared for at the house of Mrs H. S. Deming. Much interest has resulted from the establishment of this branch.

The Pawlet (Vt.) public library, Miss Nellie M. Bushee, librarian, maintains two branches and supplies 13 schools with books, doing all this from a total of 1,300 books. It is open every day in the week, to a population of 2,000; and the last year's circulation was 7,500. The town gives \$200 towards this work.

Morristown (Vt.)—On February 17 the town, at a special meeting, voted to

accept Mr Carnegie's offer of \$7,000 for a library building, and has also emphatically voted that the yearly sum of \$700 is "small enough for this worthy cause."

The children of Bennington (Vt.) are so eager to help along the growth of their department in the free library that they gave the fairy story, "Snow white" as a play. They cleared over \$100 towards new books.

Central Atlantic

The report for the first year of the administration of the public library of Newcastle (Pa.), shows a registration of 2,266 borrowers, with a total circulation of 47,408v.; 43 per cent. juvenile, 84 per cent. fiction; 5,848v. on the shelves.

Library examinations in history, literature and general information for applicants for positions in the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh were held March 2. Only residents of the city having a high school education or its equivalent and between the ages of 17 and 35 were admitted. Persons passing the examinations with a grade of 75 per cent. become eligible to the apprentice class in library methods. When this course is finished satisfactorily they are then eligible for a library position either in the central library or its branches.

Central

Miss Mary Crandall, after 27 years of faithful service to the Ida (Ill.) public library, has resigned. Appropriate resolutions recognizing her services were passed. Miss Elizabeth Ballard will succeed her as librarian. Annabel A. Hurlburd, N. Y., 1906-'07, has resigned her position as cataloger at the University of Illinois library to become branch assistant in the Chicago public library system.

Monmouth (Ill.) public library reports 23,820v. with a circulation of 60,103v. for 1911, being an increase of 25 per cent. in the use of books during the past year.

Galesburg (Ill.) public library has made an effort to awaken interest in the library by sending to the secretary or president of each of the 34 labor unions of the town a letter calling the attention of the members to the public library. Results will be watched with interest.

West

The Omaha public library report (1911) shows 15,656 borrowers (each holding two cards), an increase of 607. The life of the card is three years, borrowers are re-registering without the necessity of having a renewal application signed; the guarantor holds over indefinitely.

The circulation was 259,401v. an increase of 14,924v., of which 65 per cent. was in the adult department; the recorded home use of books from the schools was 25,820v. Factory, social settlement and Sunday school circulation was 3,363; reading and reference room visitors 49,793; books on shelves 91,860, of which 4,931 were added during the year, being about half the usual increase, due to the fact that half of the appropriation for books was applied to purchase of the new book stack. Shelf capacity has been increased 50 per cent. by the addition of a second floor stack. Work is still much hampered for lack of room.

The library maintains a bindery and bound 6,253v. at an average cost of 46 cents. Total expenditures, \$31,030; salaries of library staff, \$12,594; binders, engineer and janitors, \$4,736; books and periodicals, \$4,873.

The book fund has been augmented by gifts from the Omaha-Douglas county medical society, the Daughters of the American revolution, the Sons of the American revolution and the May music festival. The last mentioned organization has made it possible to obtain an excellent collection of sheet music.

The local art society continues to purchase stereopticon slides which become the property of the library and which are loaned to other organizations for various purposes; other valuable gifts have been received from many sources, one of the best being an excellent collection of children's books, which will be used for home libraries.

The medical collection has been established as a department, occupying what was formerly the women's reading room. This was desirable because of the recent removal of the medical collection of the

Nebraska state university from Lincoln to Omaha. Other innovations are the use of the library lecture room for lectures by professors connected with the University of Nebraska, the use of the art rooms for an art exhibit under the management of the local art society, and the adoption of a plan whereby the library maintains classes which shall correspond somewhat to those in evening schools.

Mrs Karen M. Jacobson, until recently, librarian of the Oregon state normal school at Monmouth has become State library organizer of Utah under the supervision of the Library and gymnasium committee of the State board of education of Utah. Mrs Jacobson was formerly connected with the University of Chicago library.

South

Mrs Hannah Payne Johnson announces the engagement and approaching marriage of her daughter Mary Hannah Johnson to Dr Philander Priestly Claxton of Knoxville and Washington. The marriage will take place Tuesday evening, April 23, 1912 at Christ church, Nashville (Tenn.).

Miss Margaret McE. Kercheval, who has been first assistant and head cataloger since the beginning of the development of the institution from the Howard library, will succeed Miss Johnson as librarian.

Miss Turner of *The Indexers* (offices Chicago and New York City), is reorganizing the public library at Muskogee, (Okla.).

Miss Lodilla Ambrose, for the last year a member of the staff of *The Item*, has been appointed librarian and curator of the museum of Tulane university's new school of tropical medicine, the appointment to take effect on April 1. Miss Ambrose holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the Northwestern university, which she served as head librarian for the 10 years prior to 1908. The next two years she spent in England and on the Continent. She has since lived in New Orleans.

Foreign

For the first time in Denmark a wealthy man has made a large gift to a library. N. A. Christensen, an iron manufacturer of Nykjobing on the Mors, recently contributed the sum of 5,000 crowns to help found a public library in Nykjobing.

The Swedish library periodical, "*Folk-biblioteksbladet*," was discontinued with the December issue, because, as the editor, Axel Hirsch, says, "the journal was not received with the interest on the part of libraries which the editor thought right to expect."

The librarian of the Openbare leszaal en bibliotheek of Hilversum, Holland, Miss Olena Mühlenfeld, is making a collection of forms used in American libraries and also of picture postcards. She writes, "I shall gladly send Dutch ones in exchange, only our libraries are few and far between."

The *Modern review* (Calcutta) contains an illustrated article upon the genesis and principal features of the first and only free public library in India. This library is called the Baroda Central library and owes its establishment to the patriotic foresight and generosity of His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwar. Baroda is a district of British India of about 8,300 square miles and over 3,000,000 population. His Highness visited European and American libraries a few years ago and while in this country secured the services of W. A. Borden, formerly librarian of the Young men's institute, New Haven (Conn.), who has now been in India nearly two years for the purpose of organizing the libraries of the province into a coherent system with the Baroda City library as a center. When Mr Borden went to India he found a number of widely scattered collections of books and manuscripts of great value. All of these were placed under his supervision and direction. Among the most notable of these collections were the libraries of the Laxmi Vilas palace with over 21,000 select and costly books, the private property of His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwar, also the library

of his brother, Shrimant Sampatrao Gaekwar, containing 16,000v., and noted for its oriental collection; also a valuable Sanskrit collection of over 2,000v. in print and manuscript attached to the Vithal Mandir temple. The next in importance was the Baroda college library, and a number of other collections in various government offices; also the State library, which receives an annual state grant and is controlled by a semi-official body. Besides these libraries in the city of Baroda, aggregating 150,000v., there were in the Baroda district 40 libraries aggregating 40,000v., besides 191 small village and town libraries under the supervision of the Department of education and containing 25,000v. At the generous suggestion of His Highness, the Gaekwar of Baroda, the Laxmi Vilas palace has been converted into a central library with rooms for books, reading rooms, study rooms, a pardah reading room and library, children's library, lecture hall, library school and executive offices; thus the "Free public library of Baroda City is to have a building of its own, which will be a store-house for all valuable historical documents and papers now in private hands in the State, but which owners would probably be glad to have stored in a safe place." It will also be the center from which traveling libraries will be sent out and from which books new and old can be distributed to various branch libraries in the different towns. The Central library is expected to do extension work in the various Talukas and to have a bureau of information.

Plans are drawn for an ideal library building suited to Indian conditions. The building is to be hexagonal in shape, two stories high and built around a central inner court.

A library training class is already in operation with 11 students, three of whom are women. The central library now has a circulation of over 5,000 per month.

A fortunate circumstance is found in the fact that the Central library department is to rank with other independent departments of state with a graded service of its own.